



TRIO DI CLARONE

The enthusiastic music lover may certainly know the basset horn, a rare instrument in the clarinet family. It was used in Mozart's Requiem KV626, which owes its melancholy sound to this dark-toned instrument.

The clarinet player, however, also knows this instrument as a rather difficult one: it is often difficult to master both technically and in terms of intonation. A trio of basset horns would probably have been unthinkable had it not been for Mozart and his five Divertimenti written for just this instrumentation.

Mozart seemed to have had a particular affinity for the basset horn during his final years. Some even believe that the basset horn was his favourite instrument. Although many of his compositions with basset horn have fallen into near oblivion today. The five above-mentioned divertimenti (KV 439 b) survived, but only as an arrangement for two clarinets and bassoon.

Sabine Meyer, Wolfgang her brother and clarinet player Reiner Wehle formed the TRIO DI CLARONE in 1983. Their interest in how the original divertimenti must have sounded played an important part. Obviously five divertimenti of Mozart could not form a complete concert program. Rather than including compositions of lesser quality by Mozart's contemporaries, they decided to contrast Mozart's ingenious works with important compositions of the present day.

This juxtaposition of Mozart and contemporary works soon became a success. Regular concert appearances in Germany and other European countries as well as numerous broadcast recordings and appearances on television have made TRIO DI CLARONE quickly popular. Tours brought them to the USA, Africa, Japan and China.

In their effort to perform important but seldom heard original pieces, TRIO DI CLARONE occasionally collaborates with other musicians, thus being able to present a truly rare and interesting program such as performing a program with three singers and three clarinet players or works for three clarinets and piano. On the occasion of TRIO DI CLARONE's tenth anniversary, they collaborated with well-known American jazz clarinetist Eddie Daniels in a cross-over program, which was released on CD as "Blues for Sabine" by EMI Classics.

Since 2000 TRIO DI CLARONE has a close collaboration with German jazz clarinetist Michael Riessler; "Bach 2000" was their first common project, followed by "Paris mecanique" with French hurdy-gurdy player Pierre Charial. Their latest project "Die andere Seite der Luft", a collaboration with Michael Riessler and the actor Dominique Horwitz was premiered in 2011.

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