

**The Dante Quartet** was founded by Krysia Osostowicz in 1995, its name inspired by the idea of an epic and challenging journey. The quartet has appeared at all the major UK festivals and concert societies, as well as in many European countries, and has just made its first tour of Japan. Recipient of many awards, including the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Chamber Music, the Diapason d'Or and the BBC Music Magazine Award, the Dante Quartet has recorded several discs for Hyperion – including works by Kodaly, Smetana, Sibelius, Faure, Debussy and Ravel - and has just begun recording Stanford's complete quartets, many of them unpublished, for SOMM Records. Next year's plans include appearances at Wigmore Hall and Kings Place, including the world premiere of a new work by Jonathan Dove, and the development of a dramatised Beethoven Cycle together with playwright Clare Norburn. The Dante Quartet has held a seven-year residency at King's College, Cambridge, and gives annual chamber music courses in England and France. The quartet also runs its own thriving Dante Summer Festival in the Tamar Valley ([www.dantefestival.org](http://www.dantefestival.org)), attracting enthusiastic local audiences and visitors from all over the UK.

**Krysia Osostowicz** (violinist) has given concerto and recital performances across Europe and made many award-winning recordings. From 1985-1995 she played with Domus, the pioneering piano quartet which toured with its own portable concert hall, a geodesic dome, winning a world-wide audience and two Gramophone Awards. Last year she created a new project, "Beethoven Plus!" with pianist Daniel Tong, touring the UK with Beethoven's complete violin sonatas plus ten newly commissioned companion pieces. She is also principal violinist of Endymion Ensemble and teaches at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Born in London of a Polish family, Krysia studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School and Cambridge University, and her teachers have included Yehudi Menuhin, Sándor Végh and Ferenc Rados.

**Oscar Perks** (violinist) performs regularly as a soloist and chamber musician on both violin and viola. He teaches at the Yehudi Menuhin School and pursues an interest in composing and arranging. Oscar performs at many leading London venues and recently took part in the IMS Prussia Cove autumn UK tour. His string quartet *The Twin Towers* (2001) won the BBC Guardian Young Composer Competition. Oscar is a founding member of the Perks Ensemble, a flexible chamber group co-founded along with his brother and sister. Oscar studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School, at Cambridge University and subsequently at the RCM with Lutsia Ibragimova.

**Yuko Inoue** (violist) won the 17th Budapest International Viola Competition and has performed worldwide with orchestras and as a soloist and chamber musician. She is a member of the Fibonacci Sequence, and performs and records frequently with Britain's most eminent chamber ensembles and in festivals such as Lockenhaus, Kuhmo, Cheltenham, Bath and Aldeburgh. Her first solo CD, *Romanze - The Romantic Viola*, earned much critical acclaim, and she has also recorded Bach's Gamba Sonatas for Quartz. Yuko teaches at the Royal Academy of Music in London and plays on a viola by J B Vuillaume, kindly loaned by Mr John Sanderson.

**Richard Jenkinson** (cellist) joined the Dante Quartet in 2012, having been principal cellist with the Irish Chamber Orchestra and more recently the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Chamber music has always been an integral part of his life and he is a founding member of both the Frith Piano Quartet and Innovation Chamber Ensemble, which he founded in 2000 and with whom he has made several recordings. Richard also gives frequent duo recitals with pianist Benjamin Frith. He studied with Florence Hooton and subsequently at the GSMD with Raphael Wallfisch and William Pleeth.