

The Dante Quartet was founded by Krysia Osostowicz in 1995, its name inspired by the idea of an epic journey. The quartet has appeared at all the major UK festivals and concert societies, as well as in many European countries, and has recently made its second 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Smetana, Sibelius, Faure, Debussy and Ravel - and is currently recording Stanford's complete quartets, many of them unpublished, for SOMM Records. Other current projects include a marathon weekend of all 15 Shostakovich string quartets and a series of performances of "Beethoven's Quartet Journey" - an innovative Beethoven cycle performed in the presence of the composer himself, consummately acted by David Timson with a script by Clare Norburn. Committed also to teaching, the Dante Quartet held an extended residency at King's College, Cambridge, and now 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), attracting enthusiastic local audiences and visitors from all over the UK.

Krysia Osostowicz (violinist) has given concerto and recital performances across Europe and made a series of award-winning recordings. From 1985-1995 she played with Domus, the pioneering piano quartet with its own travelling 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. Their recording of the complete cycle has recently been released on SOMM Records. 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. She is also principal violinist of Endymion Ensemble and is much in demand as a teacher of violin and chamber music at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. As a chamber musician she has collaborated with artists such as Steven Isserlis, Huw Watkins, Thomas Ades, Ralph Kirschbaum and Radu Lupu.

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, winner of the 17th Budapest International Viola Competition has performed worldwide with orchestras and as a soloist and chamber musician. She performs and records frequently with Britain's most eminent chamber ensembles and has performed in festivals such as Lockenhaus, Kuhmo, Cheltenham, Bath and Aldeburgh. She has also guest-led at orchestras such as BBC Philharmonic, London Philharmonia, English Chamber Orchestra and London Sinfonietta. Her solo CDs, *Romanze*, and *Bach's Gamba Sonatas* (and the *Chaconne*) have both earned much critical acclaim. Yuko teaches at the Royal Academy of Music, and at its Junior department, in London where she curated a viola festival - *British Viola "Romantic and Contemporary"* 2011-12.

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 InnoVaBon 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.