

LIMELIGHT

Music, Arts & Culture

Review

4 Greatest Classical B's (Adelaide Virtuosi Trio/Adelaide Fringe)

The Adelaide Virtuosi Trio delivers a generous, if not perfect recital of chamber favourites.

Pilgrim Uniting Church, Adelaide
Reviewed on 23 February, 2022
by [Mal Byrne](#) on 25 February, 2022



Like

On a balmy Adelaide summer's night, post-Omicron, it was reassuring to see queues of people lining up for a chamber music concert. It's hard to go wrong with the masters Bach, Beethoven, Brahms and Bartók, and while the Adelaide Virtuosi Trio didn't deliver perfection, members Marta and Matej Sutora on violin and Adam Rybovic (piano) performed a generous program of chamber favourites with considerable aplomb.



The Virtuosi Trio.

The concert began with the most familiar piece in the program – Bach’s Double Concerto in D Minor. Perhaps it was because the concert started five minutes late, but the piano seemed to be galloping ahead of the violins in the early bars of the *Vivace*. Things settled in the *Adagio* movement with strong enunciation from Matej Sutora in particular. I also would have liked to hear Ryboic’s left hand staccato more prominently in the final *Allegro* movement.

While there were some stumbles in the Bach, Matej Sutora and Ryboic followed up with a fine, flawless performance of Beethoven’s stately Romance for Violin in F Major, Op. 50. The tempo was perfect, the synergy noticeable and Sutora’s confident muscular tone was impressive.

Tackling Brahms’ Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D Minor, Op. 77 ‘unplugged’, so to speak, with just violin and piano was an ambitious move – even if it was just the *Adagio* movement. While it was clear that Marta Sutora loves the piece and has a long history performing the work, the demands of the more difficult sections of the work proved taxing at times. Nevertheless, the audience appreciated the undoubted generosity of the attempt.

The trio’s Eastern European heritage was evident in the final programmed item, Bartok’s Romanian dances, where all concerned shone brightly and the audience was tapping its feet to the infectious rhythms.

But there was more to come: a C in the form of Chopin’s Ballade No 1, performed by Ryboic and dedicated to his late Grandfather and Uncle in Slovakia, and three short Shostakovich pieces for trio. Bravo to all concerned.

The [4 Greatest Classical B’s](#) will also be performed at Church at Scots Church, Adelaide on 3 March and The Ballroom at Urrbrae House on 13 March.