



Andrew Smith  
Press Packet 2012

# What the papers say:

## Solo Performances

"Virtuoso playing" *Evening Telegraph, UK*

"Sumptuous and richly expressive playing" *Stamford Mercury, UK*

"Smith's playing of this fiendishly difficult violin part was masterful"  
*The Chronicle, UK*

"Strongly individual playing .... devilish fiddling"  
*London Independent, UK*

"The subtle variation of dynamic shading and phrasing and the intelligent approach was wonderful" *Herald Argus, IN*

## Castillon Trio

"three accomplished artists ... that should not be missed by any music lover....chamber music is like fine porcelain with its expertly detailed craftsmanship on display .... a better example of how it should be heard would be hard to find." *Herald Argus, IN*

"Prolonged applause rewarded this trio's superb performance ... they returned onstage to persistent applause ..... 5 Stars" *Rutland Mercury, UK*

# Andrew Smith - Violin



**Andrew Smith** studied at the Royal Academy of Music, UK where his teachers included Erich Gruenberg and Emanuel Hurwitz. Upon graduating with honors he was awarded the Farjeon Prize and granted a position on the Advanced Solo Studies course. Leaving college in 1992, he was appointed as Concertmaster of the Orquestra da Norte, Portugal and in the same year he made his London debut at the South Bank Centre. He moved to the US in 1996 as Assistant to the Emerson String Quartet, winners of five Grammy awards, and continued his solo studies with Ida Kavafian, getting his Doctorate in Performance from the Hartt School.

As a soloist Andrew has performed with orchestras throughout Europe, China and the United States. He has appeared at such venues as the British Embassy in Paris, St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, the Edinburgh International Festival, the British Music Information Centre, the Chicago Cultural Center and Chicago's Symphony Hall, and his concerts have been broadcast on public television and radio in England, Italy, Portugal, and

America. He has appeared in concert for the American Liszt Society, the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts, the US Coast Guard, "World Hunger", and "Artists Against Aids" and was named 2004 solo artist for the LaPorte Symphony. His recording of the Glazunow Concerto appears on the VUCA label and he has recorded for the Sony Classics, ASV, VUCA labels.

Before coming to the US in 1996 he held positions in his early twenties as Concertmaster of Orquestra da Norte, Portugal, the European Chamber Opera, the Heart of England Opera, and as Associate Concertmaster of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company and worked with such orchestras as the London Pops, the English Festival Orchestra, Moscow City Ballet and the National Symphony Orchestra, UK. In the US he has received invitations to appear as guest concertmaster with the Illinois Philharmonic, the Kalamazoo Symphony, the Sergio Franchi Gala Orchestra, Connecticut Virtuosi and the Bach Institute with Helmuth Rilling, among others

Andrew was a founding member of the new music group "The Rubicon Ensemble" and served as its Artistic Director between 1990 and 1995. He has taught on the faculty of Valparaiso University, St. Joseph's College, the Hartford Conservatory, the Hartt Community Division and is now Director of the Suzuki Music School of Westport. He has given masterclasses at the Hartt School, the Shanghai Conservatory, Jiangsu Performing Arts Center, San Francisco University, State University New York and Andrew's University and appeared twice as guest clinician for ASTA String Days. In 2002 his study of fin-de-siècle art and music won him two awards for research at the Conservatoire Royale de Musique and the Musées Royaux des Beaux-Arts in Brussels.

Andrew's career is recognized in "Who's Who in America"

Andrew plays a violin labeled Jo. Baptista Ceruti Cremona 1805



# Project Beethoven

## The Smith Christova Duo

Andrew Smith - violin Elina Christova - piano

The collaboration began with a fundraising performance of the Debussy Sonata at Steinway Recital Room. This chance performance by two award winning musicians, blossomed into a partnership as the resident duo at the Baroque to Modern on Main Concert Series, where their performances have included works by Schubert, Baciewicz, Part, Messiaen, De Falla, Debussy and Beethoven.

From Bulgaria and the UK, Elina and Andrew have each distinguished themselves on the international concert scene, appearing at such venues as Weill Recital Room, Chicago's Symphony Hall, Detroit's Orchestra Hall, The Royal Festival Hall, London, Dame Myra Hes Concert Series, Alice Tully Hall, The British Embassy, Paris, National Palace of Culture, Sofia, le Salle Gaveau, Pars, Edinburgh International Festival, Shanghai Conservatoire, China, St Martin in the Fields, London and many more.

Project Beethoven began in 2010 with the duo's first performances of the 10 sonatas by Beethoven. Beethoven's ten violin sonatas span from 1797-1812. Aged 27 and in full possession of the confident and daring style that made him stand far apart from all his contemporaries, Beethoven's first nine sonatas emerged from an incredible burst of creative energy that lasted a mere six years. At the climax of this explosion of brilliance comes the monumental "Kreutzer" Sonata, a monumental work with a mythic status that has inspired plays, art and music. Ten years later, Beethoven, now fully deaf, approached the genre for a final time with his tenth and last violin sonata. The G major sonata stands alone from the others, a foreshadow of the great works of Brahms. Together this set offer a fascinating and refreshing glimpse into the development of Beethoven's growth as a composer.

From their early performances the duo will release their first recording, in 2012 an interactive ipad app of their Beethoven performances.



# The Castillon Trio

Andrew Smith – violin    Andrea E. Mills – cello    Diego Tornelli – piano



Since their formation in 2002 the Castillon Trio have been hailed as a new "*dynamic American Trio*" (Evening Telegraph UK)... "*not to be missed by any music lover!*" (Herald Argus IN). Having formed while on faculty at Valparaíso University, this international trio has studied with the foremost names in chamber music - the Beaux-Arts Trio, the Amadeus Quartet, the Emerson Quartet, the Chilingarian Quartet, the American Quartet and the Cleveland Quartet. Individually, they have performed as soloists with orchestras in Europe, America and China and appeared in recital for charities such as "World Hunger" and "Artists Against Aids" and at

venues including the Dame Myra Hess Concerts, the Edinburgh International Festival, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the British Music Information Center, the French Embassy, Paris, the Purcell Room, and the American Liszt Society. Together they have been heard in concert for BBC Radio, UK and Public Radio, US and throughout the US and UK.

The trio has been recognized for their "*dynamic*" interpretations of both classic and less familiar repertoire. Their concerts have been described as "*outstanding musical events*" and won them invitations as artists-in-residence for the La Porte County Symphonic Society (2004) and the Stamford International Music Festival, UK (2004-2010), where they serve as ensemble-in-residence. English newspapers hailed their 2004 UK debut as "*a veritable feast of sound from this dynamic American trio ... these accomplished players rapidly displayed their superb technique ... prolonged applause rewarded this trio's superb performance*" (The Evening Telegraph)



The trio takes its name from the French composer, Alexis de Castillon, who died tragically in the early years of his career. His memory was held dear by a generation of young French composers, from Saint-Saëns to Ravel, who remembered him as a founding member of the new French school and the first composer of his generation to devote himself almost exclusively to writing chamber music. Echoing the music of Castillon, the trio's repertoire combines the classic masters of the form with contemporary and lesser-known composers: from Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven to Piston, Bridge, Shostakovich and Nyman. Shostakovich and Nyman.

# Teaching and Leadership

Andrew's diverse interests in music have led to a multi-faceted career. As a student at the Royal Academy of Music in London he worked as an arranger for the BBC, the European Chamber Opera and Heart of England Opera, winning the Royal Academy's Farjeon Prize for excellence in music theory. At the same time he became Artistic Director of the Rubicon Ensemble, researching themed concerts of new and neglected works for voice and chamber ensemble, with musicians from the London Symphony, Royal Opera House, BBC Symphony and English National Opera. Upon leaving college, he was invited to become Director of the European Chamber Opera and later, London Musici, collaborating with the dancers and choreographers of Ballet Rambert, London's leading modern dance company.

In 1996 Andrew began a Doctoral degree at the Hartt School as Assistant to the Grammy winning Emerson String Quartet. While running the Emerson Quartet's program for international quartets for the University of Hartford, he was invited to organize "The Copland Festival" a multi-faceted arts festival celebrating the influence of Aaron Copland on American arts with partners including Connecticut Opera, the Hartford Symphony, the Bushnell Theater, the Hartford Stage Company, the Wadsworth Atheneum and Boosey & Hawkes.

Andrew won two research awards in 2003 that enabled him to work in the archives of the Conservatoire Royale de Musique and the Musées Royaux des Beaux-Arts in Brussels. His area of interest examined the influence of the Belgian Artist's Collective "Les XX" on the new music scene of Paris during the post-impressionist revolution of the 1880s. At the heart of this research lay an interest in the pivotal playing of the Belgian violinist Eugene Ysaye and the political influence of Wagnerism on the symbolist aesthetic. Andrew has been guest lecturer at the Hartt School twice, lecturing on the Franco-Belgian violin school and on Ysaye.

In 2000 Andrew became Assistant Professor of Music at Valparaiso University, Indiana responsible for violin, viola and music theory. At Valparaiso he lectured on Romantic and Contemporary Music History while pursuing his solo career as a performer.

Andrew's widely diverse interests as a performer, teacher and academic have come together in his roles as artistic director of the "Bach at the Brauer Museum" music series at Valparaiso University, artistic director of the Children's "Pillow Concert Series" and "Da Capo Visiting Artist Series" at the Suzuki Music School of Westport and artistic director of the Stamford International Music Festival, UK where he programmed over forty chamber works each season between 2004-2010.

Andrew's teaching spans his international career as a performer. As a trained Suzuki Method teacher he teaches children as young as three and is Executive Director of the Suzuki Music School of Westport, the largest independent non-profit Suzuki school of its kind in the US. He is founder and vice-president of the Suzuki Association of Southern New England.

In addition to his more recent work with very young children, Andrew has worked for many years with young professional musicians from around the world. He is Artistic Director of the Stamford International Music Festival, UK and, with fellow faculty from the Royal Academy of Music, the Guildhall School of Music, the Royal Conservatoire, Amsterdam, the Hague Orchestra and the Royal Conservatoire, Madrid, he works with graduate students and young professionals in two intensive weeks of study. He has twice appeared as a special guest artist for the American String Teachers Association and given master classes to graduate and undergraduate music students at the Shanghai Conservatoire, San Francisco University, State University New York, Radford University, Hartt School, Winston Salem University, the Jiangsu Performing Arts Center, Florida Gulf Coast University and Andrew's University.

He has taught on the faculty of Valparaiso University, St. Joseph's College, the Hartford Conservatory, the Hartt Community Division among others.

# Recital Repertoire

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J. S. Bach	Accompanied Sonatas 1-6 Unaccompanied Sonatas 1-6
G. Baciewicz	Sonata no.5
B. Bartok	Rumanian Dances
L. v Beethoven	Sonatas 1-10
J. Brahms	Sonatas 1-3
P. Brust	Duo
A. Copland	Sonata
J. Corigliano	Sonata
E. Chausson	Poeme
C. Debussy	Sonata
V. D'Indy	Sonata
E. Elgar	Sonata Chanson du Matin, Chanson de Nuit Sault d'amour
G. Faure	Sonatas 1 & 2 Berceuse
M. de Falla	Seven Spanish Songs Danse espagnolle
C. Franck	Sonata
E. Grieg	Sonatas 1-3
G. F. Handel	Sonatas 1-6
A. J. Kernis	Air
E. Korngold	Much Ado About Nothing
H. Lachenmann	Toccata
G. Lekeu	Sonata
D. MacBride	Sonatina
A. Magnard	Sonata
W. A. Mozart	Sonatas
A. Part	Fratres Speigel im Speigel
A. Previn	Two Little Serenades
S. Prokofiev	Solo Sonata
F. Reizenstein	Fantasia Concertante
S. Reich	Violin Phase
E. Rubbra	Variations on a Phrygian theme
P. Sarasate	Ziguernewesin
F. Schubert	Sonatinas
R. Schumann	Sonata in a minor
P. Seabourne	A Music Beginning
I Stravinsky	Duo Concertant Suite Italiene Danse Russe
H Weinawski	Legend Pollonaise Brilliant in A & D Souvenir de Russe
E. Ysaye	Andate op. Post Berceuse 2 Mazurkas Reve d'enfant Solo Sonatas 2, 3

## Castillon Trio Repertoire

L. van Beethoven	Trio Op.1 No.1 Trio Op.1 No 3 Trio Op.70 No.1 "The Ghost" Trio Op. 97 "The Archduke"
J. Brahms	Trio No.1 Op.8
F. Bridge	Trio No.1 "Phantasie"
K. Bunch	Slow Dance Swing Shift
A. de Castillon	Trio Op.4 Trio Op.11
F. Chopin	Trio, Op.8
A. Copland	Vitebsk
A. Dvorak	Trio in e minor Op.90 "Dumky"
G. Fauré	Trio Op.120
D. Friesen-Carper	"My True Gift's To Come"
J. Haydn	Trio in G major "Gypsy Rondo" Hob, 25 Trio in C major Hob , 27
C. Ives	Trio
W. A. Mozart	Trio in C major Kv. 548 Trio in E major, Kv. 542
M. Nyman	Time Will Pronounce (1992)
A. Panufnik	Trio, Op.1
W. Piston	Trio (1935)
S. Ran	Soliloquy (1997)
E. Rubbra	Trio No.2, Op.138
C. Saint-Saëns	Trio No.1 in F major, Op.18
P. Schoenfield	Café Music
C. Schumann	Trio, Op.17
R. Schumann	Trio, Op.63 Fantasiestucke op.88
D. Shostakovich	Trio No.1 (1923) Trio in e minor, Op.67
B. Smetana	Trio in g minor, Op.15
J. TV	Nivea Hair Care Styling Mousse
G. Walker	New World Dances

## Trio Ensemble Repertoire

J. Brahms	Piano Quartet No.1 in g minor op.25
O. Messiaen	"Quartet for the End of Time" (Clarinet, Violin, Cello, Piano)
G. Mahler	Piano Quartet in a minor
W. A. Mozart	Piano Quartet in g minor
D. Shostakovich	7 Romances for Soprano & Trio op.127

For information, high resolution photos, sound samples  
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