

- **Proms Chamber Music**
- **Composer Portraits**
- **Pre-Prom Talks**
- **Proms Question Time**
- **Audience Forum**

Quintet in A major, Op. 81, performed by the Czech Republic's celebrated Škampa Quartet, who are joined by Itamar Golan for the latter work (PCM 1). More Czech music follows when BBC New Generation sopranos Sally Matthews (pictured below) and Ailish Tynan sing Dvořák's folk-inspired

Proms Chamber Music

Mondays, 1.00pm

Lecture Theatre, Victoria & Albert Museum (Exhibition Road entrance).

Broadcast live on BBC Radio 3 and repeated the following Saturday lunchtime at 12.00 noon.

The BBC Proms and the Victoria & Albert Museum continue their popular collaboration presenting the Proms Chamber Music concerts on Monday lunchtimes throughout the Proms season in the Museum's Lecture Theatre. The series provides an extraordinary opportunity to hear such artists as Pinchas Zukerman and Yo-Yo Ma in unusually intimate surroundings, and showcases some of the brightest talent of the future with BBC New Generation Artists. The eight concerts pick up some of the main themes and anniversaries of the season and include a specially commissioned new work from Simon Holt (PCM 8).

The season opens with two pinnacles of the chamber repertoire by the two giants of Czech music celebrating major anniversaries in the 2004 season: Janáček's String Quartet No. 1, 'The Kreutzer Sonata', and Dvořák's Piano

original *Rosary Sonatas* by Heinrich von Biber, who died 300 years ago, which call for the violin to be retuned (PCM 6), and the Britten Sinfonia bring the Chamber Music series to a close with Martinů's witty and lively sextet *La revue de cuisine* (PCM 8).

The BBC Proms is paying tribute to Charles Ives in 2004, 50 years after his death, and the inclusion of his extraordinary 'Concord' Sonata played by Pierre-Laurent Aimard in PCM 7 is one of the highlights. This 48-minute piano work is a characteristically original and visionary work, perhaps one of his greatest. Another anniversary composer is Luigi Dallapiccola, one of the most important Italian composers of the 20th century, whose miniature masterpiece *Piccola musica notturna* is performed in the final Chamber concert by the Britten Sinfonia, directed by oboeist Nicholas Daniel.

Further highlights of the Proms Chamber music series include a concert given by legendary violinist Pinchas Zukerman and members of his National Arts Centre Orchestra from Toronto who play Schubert's String Trio in B flat major and Mozart's String Quintet in C major (PCM 2), and another concert with Yo-Yo Ma and his Silk Road Ensemble which includes Debussy's Cello Sonata as well as music and musicians from China, Iran and other countries along the ancient trading route.

Performing Art, the popular pre-concert talks, return this year and for the first time can be heard exclusively on the BBC Proms website. Each talk, hosted by Christopher Cook, focuses on an item in the V&A's collection of decorative art and sculpture and aims to shed light on the shared worlds of art and music. The talks take place in the Lecture Theatre at 12.15pm before each Monday's Proms Chamber Music concert.

Tickets for Proms Chamber Music concerts are £8.00 and available from the Royal Albert

Hall Box Office or online at www.bbc.co.uk/proms, and from the V&A on the day (subject to availability; advance booking is advised).

Proms Composer Portraits

Lecture Theatre, Victoria & Albert Museum (Exhibition Road entrance).
Recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3 immediately following the evening's main Prom.

Tuesday 20 July, 6.00pm

