

Triple Forte covers all the emotions in a spell-binding concert

By MARVIN DICKAU
event review

Last Friday, Kelowna concert goers were treated to the third outstanding program in seven days, when the Kelowna Community Concert Association presented Triple Forte, a wonderful Canadian Piano Trio.

The Musicians are David Jalbert, piano; Jasper Wood, violin; Yegor Dyachkov, cel- lo. Their eclectic programming spanned more than a century, namely the music of Shostakovich (C minor, Op. 8), Ravel (A mi- nor) and Dvorak (F Minor, B130, op 65).

Formed in 2003, the trio has played to rave reviews, citing their high musician- ship, dashing virtuosity and liveliness while touring internationally and extensively across Canada. They have been given high accolades personally and as a group.

As I listened and watched last Friday, I quickly understood that they richly deserve every word of praise that has been heaped on them. There is no need to go into detail about the compositions; the composers are all well-loved for their fine writing. Indeed, the music is typical of their work: complex, challenging, stirring and restful, covering all the emotions.

The players did more than justice to the writing, making the music almost leap off the page with intensity. As a group they enjoy complete rapport with each other, seeming to know intuitively what each will do. They were totally absorbed in the music, clearly enjoying every nuance they produced. This takes a lot of practice together to achieve; some groups don't quite make it.

The music embraced every mood: joy, sorrow, melancholy, vigor, agitation and out and out national pride. Each performer captured every change from the exquisite, enchanting, and romantic melodies to the vigor of the climaxes. The phrasing was al- ways superb and as they came to the phrase ends, it was electric. Interaction between the players was marvelous, but uncontrived. The unison between instruments was impeccable.

After the wonderful evening we enjoyed, the question in my mind was "what will they do for an encore?"

Their choice was brilliant and a complete change from the rest of the evening. A con- temporary piece called Give Me Phoenix Wings to Fly, which they called rock and roU, was a delight. Full of dissonances, strong rhythms and spiky melodies, it was a fitting end to a brilliant concert, prompt- ing a standing ovation, and sending us home, glad that we had been there.



Marvin Dickau is an organist, pianist and conductor with an A.Mus. from the University of Alberta.