

about *Trio Claudel*

With their roots spreading from all corners of the globe including Canada, Russia, Brazil and UK, **Trio Claudel** is a dynamic and emerging piano trio based in Salzburg, comprising of pianist **Anastasia Kulikova**, violinist **Vinícius Gomes** and cellist **Laura MacDonald**. After meeting at festivals across Europe and at the Mozarteum, the three like-minded musicians were quick to recognise their shared passion for trio repertoire and for outreach social projects, bonding them as an ensemble in 2024. The trio brings together all of the extensive chamber music experience of the three members along with their own musical inspirations and a commitment to innovative performance. Named after the French sculptor Camille Claudel, the trio aims to bridge the gap between the “standard” and the “forgotten” composers in classical music by focusing on inclusive and diverse programming. They enjoy performing a range of repertoire spanning from contemporary to classical, with a particular focus on works by female composers.

So far Trio Claudel has received invaluable coaching from high calibre musicians including Thomas Riebl, Cibrán Sierra-Vázquez and Connie Shih, all of whom are helping to shape the ensemble’s continuous artistic development. The trio have also performed throughout Austria and Germany, including at the Mozarteum’s Solitär, Schloss Frohnburg, Mozartareal Würzburg and Schloss Arenberg. Between them they have performed at festivals across the world including *IMS Prussia Cove*, *ChamberLab Montecastelli*, *Edinburgh Festival* and at venues including *Elbphilharmonie*, *Concertgebouw*, *Salle Cortot* and *Wigmore Hall*.

The trio was named the recipient of the 2025 Mozarteum Ensemble scholarship, aimed at supporting chamber groups in the realization of a unique project. As a result, the trio went on an educational outreach tour in São Paulo, Brazil in August 2025, where they performed concerts, gave masterclasses, and visited local schools and social projects. In September 2025, the trio took part in the prestigious *Jeunesses Musicales International Chamber Music Campus* at Schloss Weikersheim, studying with Günter Pichler, the Vogler Quartet and Dirk Mommertz. The trio has been recently selected to join the MERITA Platform within the MERITAcubed project, which runs 2026-2029.