

contagiously contemporary

KOEHNE quartet



JOANNA LEWIS, Violine
ANNE HARVEY-NAGL, Violine
LENA FANKHAUSER, Viola
MELISSA COLEMAN, Violoncello

The Koehne Quartet founded in 1987 by Joanna Lewis, counts as one of today's outstanding interpreters of contemporary music in continental Europe. The quartet's list of repertoire is now expansive, ranging from classical quartet repertoire through to the 21st century. Since its formation the quartet has encouraged and enjoyed building up an intense working relationship with the composers whose compositions they perform, aiming for authentic and original interpretations. What began with the string quartets of Graeme Koehne – one of Australia's most renowned, diverse and versatile composers – consequently lead to Austrian Contemporaries such as Friedrich Cerha, Kurt Schwertsik, Francis Burt, Thomas Pernes, Gerd Kühr, Thomas Larcher and Wolfgang Liebhart.

The quartet's method of working, breaking new ground together with the composers, was also strongly influenced by attending master classes with Günter Pichler (Alban Berg Quartet), the Amadeus and the Brodsky Quartet, with Hatto Beyerle and Gyorgy Kurtág.

The Koehne Quartet also works regularly with international jazz musicians such as Dave Liebman, Wayne Horvitz and Peter Herbert. Since its formation the quartet performs regularly in cultural centres and travels to international festivals in Europe, Australia and South Africa.

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Joanna Lewis, Violine

born 1963 in Adelaide, Australien.

Studied violin, cello and composition in Adelaide and violin with Spiros Rantos in Queensland.

1985 received the Carl Ludwig Pinschof Scholarship for study in Vienna, where she studied at the Hochschule für Musik und die Performing Arts with Wolfgang Schneiderhan, Gerhard Hetzel and Günter Pichler, receiving a diploma with excellence.

Numerous performances as a soloist and together with Lisa Moore, Dave Liebman, Wayne Horvitz, Peter Herbert, Koehne Quartet, Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna, Ensemble of the 20th Century, Music On Line, Vienna Art Orchestra, Austrian-Hungarian Haydn Philharmonie, Vienna Concert-Verein, Vienna Symphony, Otto Lechner Quartet, Max Nagl Quintet and Ramasuri (Max Nagl Double-Quintet), Velvet Lounge (Hannes Loeschel Octet), Giorgio Occhipinti Nonet, Australian World Orchestra, Ensemble Kontrapunkte, Klangforum Vienna and Camera-ta Schulz.



Anne Harvey-Nagl, Violine

born 1969 in Melbourne, Australien

Studied violin with Brian Blake and Spiros Rantos in Australia and Günter Pichler in Vienna.

1986 winner of the "National Youth Concerto Competition". 1990 received the ANZ International Fellowship for musical studies overseas.

Performed with the Radio Symphony Orchestra Vienna, the Vienna Mozart Orchestra, Vienna Concert-Verein, Klangforum, Music On Line, and the Kammerphilharmonie. From 1999 until 2011 Anne was Principal 1st violin of the Vienna Volksoper and was appointed the Concert-master position in 2011.

Numerous performances as a soloist. 1994 soloist with the Vienna Chamber Orchestra in their series "Presenting Young Artists". Since 1995 regular performances as a soloist with the Vienna Mozart Orchestra.

Member of the Koehne Quartet since 1992.



Lena Fankhauser, Viola

born 1963 in Adelaide, Australien.

born in Montreal (Canada)

graduated from the Juilliard School of Music (New York) followed by a Post-graduate program at the Mozarteum Salzburg with Prof. Thomas Riebl.

She has played with many ensembles such as the Volksoper Vienna, Burgtheater, Orchestra of the Vienna State Opera, Klangforum, Camerata Salzburg and the Vienna Chamber Orchestra.

She has recorded film music for many productions including collaborating with Alicia Keys for the film 'Ali' and for various studio session recordings, for example with the Blue Note Label with Bob Belden and Joe Lavano. Lena Fankhauser has played at the Salzburg Fespiele, Carinthian Summer, Glatz & Verkehrt, Donaufestival amongst many others. She is the founder of a chamber music festival in Bad Ischl and in Mariazell.

Lena Fankhauser is a member of the Koehne Quartet since 2013.



Melissa Coleman, Cello

born 1968 in Melbourne, Australia.

Melissa Coleman was born in 1968 in Melbourne, Australia and began her musical education with piano lessons at the age of 7.

She studied cello with Henry Wenig and performing arts at the Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne, where she graduated with distinction 1981 – 1990.

The VCA granted Melissa the loan of a valuable Auguste Sebastian Bernadel cello for 3 years and she was subsequently awarded the prestigious „Peers Cotemore Scholarship“ for further studies overseas. She was the recipient of the „Herbert N. Davis Chamber Music Award“ from the Musical Society of Victoria in 1987 and the „Hephzibah Menuhin Award for string soloists“ in 1989, both presented by Lord Sir Yehudi Menuhin.

In 1990 Melissa resided in London and attended private masterclasses throughout Europe including lessons with Mischa Maisky, Mark Dobrinsky and William Pleeth.

In 1991 she moved to Klagenfurt, Austria to study with Milos Mlejnik and in 1992 she was the first prizewinner at the International Cello competition in Liezen Austria.

Since 1992 Melissa Coleman has lived in Vienna and performs and tours as soloist, chamber and ensemble musician in renowned classical, modern, jazz and world music festivals throughout the world. She also works with music concept, as a composer, arranger and experimental improviser together with individual artists, modern dance, theater productions (Burg Theater Vienna) and multimedia projects.

Melissa Coleman has recorded over 40 CDs with diverse ensembles and bands since living in Vienna.