

Saturday, 10.27.07

Classical Performances

[Impressionism at La Maison Française](#)

by [Jens F. Laurson](#)



To satisfy that sudden craving for good, *live* music that you might experience after a long day of listening to [Classical WETA](#), you should consider a trip to [La Maison Française](#) on Monday, October 29th. Awaiting you would be a performance of the *Klaviertrio Amsterdam* - just recently [in town](#) at the Corcoran. That was this May and Haydn, Liszt, and Tchaikovsky were on that program. Mozart, Mendelssohn, and Ravel were featured the last time at the Maison Française in May of 2006, and Fauré, Beethoven, and Brahms made for a [a very enchanting concert](#) at the Corcoran Gallery in January 2006.

On Monday they will present Franz **Liszt's** *Orphée* (in the transcription by Camille Saint-Saens), Maurice **Ravel's** Trio in A-minor and the C-minor Piano Quartet of Gabriel **Fauré**. Helping out by playing viola with the Klaviertrio Amsterdam in the Fauré will be Jonathan Vinocourt, principal violist of the Saint Louis Symphony and recommended by the revered [Roger Tapping](#) who was sadly not available. The concert will happen in conjunction (or rather "in honor of") the Phillips Collection's [Impressionists by the Sea](#) exhibit.

Having heard Klára Würtz a few times, I have found her a marvelous pianist who can get great beauty even from lesser pianos. Her [recording of the complete Mozart piano sonatas](#) stands up to the finest available sets (e.g. [Uchida](#), [De Larrocha](#)) and the Klavier Trio Amsterdam has recorded very pleasant readings of both Mendelssohn trios (all on Brilliant Classics). Their good humor and unpretentious joy in good music has a warm, casual feel to it that serves chamber music so well - at least if late Beethoven is not on the program.

La Maison Française will be the usual gracious host (that's code for "good wine and cheese afterwards"); tickets are \$30,- and reservations can be made at the [this](#) link.