

SAUGERTIES CONCERT REVIEW

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Jay Wenk | 31 March 2016

The Boston Trio—Irina Muresanu, violin; Jonah Ellsworth, cello; Heng-Jin Park, piano—played Mendelssohn, Brahms and Piazzola trios at the Saugerties United Methodist Church on March 20. The acoustics there are, for me, overly bright and in spite of that I've attended in the past and will continue to do so. With that out of the way, the Boston Trio is wonderful! Their balance, in spite of the room's resonance, is exceptional. The Piano Trio No. 1 in d minor, Opus 49 by Mendelssohn is a chestnut, and their performance is the best I've heard. Compositionally, the first movement suffers from too much repetition of the main themes with too little development.

Brahms' Piano Trio No. 2 in C Major, Opus 87 is dense and compelling. Boston read it a little slower than versions that I've heard, not to the detriment of the piece. Again, their balance is wonderful. They did an encore, Spring, from Piazzola's "Four Seasons," a bright, exciting journey for an enthusiastic audience. I would love to hear the Boston Trio in other environments, and the Hyperion Quartet plays at the Saugerties United Methodist Church April 10. Go there; this series is very good. More information at www.saugertiespromusica.org