Sōra

- A bird that sings as it takes flight.

Of Native American origin, also means "Sky" in Japanese. A name that travels the world without losing its poetry — and since 2015, the heart of a musical adventure where nothing has been left to chance.

It began with three. Three musicians who chose chamber music as a way of life: high standards, curiosity, absolute trust. They worked tirelessly, traveled the world, entered one competition after another — and watched the awards pile up almost without realizing it. Fourteen international prizes in five years. Not trophies to display, but milestones on a road they know is still long.

Yet this is only the beginning.

“Think big. Look far ahead”. A motto they have never stopped putting into practice — from the very first day.

Their debut album? They chose the grandest possible door: Beethoven. And because they have a taste for risk and don't do things haphazardly , the complete trios. Released by Naïve in 2020, the album has since earned the highest honors. A masterstroke!

Sora kept thinking big. Two years later, they commissioned Canadian composer Kelly-Marie Murphy — not for a trio, but for a triple concerto — and premiered it with the Radio France Philharmonic Orchestra under Mikko Franck. Now a new recording is taking shape at La Dolce Volta: Brahms's trios, warmly acclaimed by critics.

As their passion grew, so have their horizons. Today, Les Sōra is a flexible ensemble of six musicians. True to the standards that have shaped its identity from the start, the ensemble cultivates the same attentiveness, the same pursuit of sound, the same chemistry — expanding into quartets and quintets without ever abandoning what gave it birth: the trio.

For Sōra has never been about numbers. It is a way of listening. Of breathing together. Of seeking the right tone before the effect, meaning before display.

A way of believing great works come alive only when one dares to hear them as if they had just been written.

The name, in the end, was not a lie. From day one, Sōra was already a promise of flight.

Pauline Chenais, pianist, artistic & musical director

Sylvia Huang & Abigél Králik, violins
Clémence Dupuy, viola

Maria Andrea Mendoza Bastidas & Laure-Hélène Michel, cellos