

# Review: Kristian Winther, Umberto Clerici, Daniel de Borah

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Violin player Kristian Winther. Picture: Jacqui Way, supplied

It was no surprise that this concert was sold out and a repeat performance organised.

Three of the best performers in Australia on their respective instruments were playing – Kristian Winther (violin), Umberto Clerici (cello) and Daniel de Borah (piano).

Of particular interest was the return of the prodigal Winther, who won many admirers during his residence here both for his playing and his bold and original programming.

But in the years that have passed since he departed this is the first time he has appeared in Adelaide.



Pianist Daniel de Borah.

This was certainly a fascinating programming. The names were familiar – Mozart, Ravel and Schumann – but the works less so.

Mozart's Sonata for Piano and Violin is exactly that; the piano takes the lead throughout, while the violin plays second fiddle as it were.

Perhaps that is why violinists appear to be less interested in playing it. But it is a beautiful and surprising work.

De Borah's subtle playing was perfectly in keeping with the restrained passion and exquisite pathos of the piece, with Winther an ideal and, where necessary, self-effacing partner.

The core of this concert was Ravel's marvellous Sonata for Violin and Cello.



Cello player Umberto Clerici.

Winther and Clerici were superbly matched in a performance that sailed through the manifold difficulties of the piece, bringing out the qualities for which Ravel is justly admired – energy, wit and delicate melancholy, constrained within a classical sense of form.

This performance alone was worth the trip to Mount Barker.

Finally, all three musicians came together in Schumann's Piano Trio in F major, a work that mixes buoyant energy and romantic tenderness with some clever counterpoint, without the combination ever sounding contrived.

Winther, Clerici and de Borah gave an admirable performance. And a few hours later, they had to do it all again.

**Kristian Winther, Umberto Clerici, Daniel de Borah**

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