

RALUCA STRATULAT – ANDREEA ȚIMIRAȘ DUO

What violinist Raluca Stratulat and cellist Andreea Țimiraș do is *musica d'insieme*, music together. Seen in this light, the decision to devote much of their artistic effort to chamber music becomes something very personal; in a smaller ensemble, there are no mere performers, but rather unique personalities that generate emotional and aesthetic content. In their duo, each one's skills and character become elements of a common acoustic and symbolic language. In such a space, music always translates into a need to find a middle way, a need to understand the other, a process of learning and accepting, complementarity rather than competition.

Raluca Stratulat and Andreea Țimiraș have been playing together since 2013, and in 2014 their duo and their friendship grew stronger during the three months of studying the *Concerto for violin, cello and orchestra* by Anatol Vieru, which they performed at the International Week of New Music. Inspired by their duo, Dan Dediu wrote *Vitrines & Vitraux* – another double concerto which, performed and recorded by Raluca and Andreea for the first time in 2015, became a part of Radio Romania's Golden Tape Library. Another major moment for the two musicians was the recital given as part of a 2017 project called Restitutio, initiated by the “George Enescu” National Museum. Alongside pianist Verona Maier, Raluca Stratulat și Andreea Țimiraș reconstructed the Brahms recital designed by George Enescu in 1904 for Pleyel Hall in Paris.

To change the outlook on chamber music from a Cinderella into a promising field for young musicians (for instance through The Chamber Music Project, Raluca's initiative), to create an audience for chamber recitals – this is the goal that Raluca Stratulat and Andreea Țimiraș are pursuing through their duo and their separate teaching careers.

They have ideas for at least one disc (such as an album of “encores,” virtuoso pieces for violin and cello) and are waiting for the right time to start working on them. They want to play the sonatas written by Ravel, Hindemith or Xenakis for violin and cello duo. They want to continue to play Brahms. They want to make music together, because for this duo making music means both professionalism and friendship.

