**The Revolutionary Drawing Room**

The Revolutionary Drawing Room is a period instrument ensemble specialising in the repertoire of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The name 'Revolutionary Drawing Room' refers to the revolutionary years in Europe between 1789 and 1848. The 'drawing room' (the name deriving from the earlier 'withdrawing room') was where chamber music was performed in Georgian times, in the houses of musicians and their patrons. The political upheavals of that time were matched by a breathless pace of change and the forging of new styles and forms in musical composition, as well as new models of musical instruments. The string players of the Revolutionary Drawing Room use original instruments and bows, or modern copies, creating a special sound derived from the beauty and flexibility of gut strings.

The ensemble, founded in 1990, has performed in Canada, Germany, Holland, Austria, Switzerland, Denmark and Ireland and across the UK, and recorded for CPO (Donizetti and Boccherini quartets) and the BBC (Mendelssohn Octet).  Recent appearances have included concerts in the Gregynog, Maldon and Petworth Festivals and the *Music and Beyond* Festival in Ottawa. The quartet is currently completing a cycle of Beethoven's Quartets over four years at St. John’s, Smith Square.

Recent recordings include Mozart's Clarinet Quintet with Colin Lawson on the Clarinet Classics label and ‘A Viennese Quartet Party’ on Omnibus Classics, A double-CD of flute quartets by Mozart and his contemporaries with Rachel Brown was released in September 2016 on the Uppernote label.