

WOODEN ELEPHANT

String Quintet

*"an extraordinarily inventive and imaginative reinterpretation,
an aural tour de force"*

Oliver Condy, Official Apple Music iTunes

*"wonderfully inventive and gloriously off the wall... nothing
short of spectacular"*

Robert Hugill



Formed in 2017, Wooden Elephant are a contemporary classical string quintet who reimagine classic electronic-based albums and present them as totally acoustic, longform contemporary classical concert works.

A big inspiration for the ensemble and the arrangements came from Ian Anderson's work with the London Contemporary Orchestra, when they collaborated with Radiohead guitarist Jonny Greenwood on his contemporary string chamber music, culminating in a tour across Europe with him, and playing on Radiohead's latest album, *A Moon Shaped Pool*. Along the way Jonny continually experimented with sound production techniques, which included introducing unusual objects to the process such as plectrums and pacay shakers, a technique used by Wooden Elephant to this day.

Wooden Elephant completed a 3-album series, comprising Björk's *Homogenic* (2017), Radiohead's *Kid A* (2018), and Beyoncé's *Lemonade* (2019). They have been invited to perform as part of the PODIUM Festival Esslingen (Germany), Verbier Festival, Philharmonie de Paris' Days Off Festival, Berlin Konzerthaus, London Jazz Festival, Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, and Beethovenfest Bonn, where they teamed up with Ballett am Rhein and choreographer Gil Harush to create a ballet around SOPHIE's trans-themed album *OIL OF EVERY PEARL'S UN-INSIDES*, and they also premiered their version of Moor Mother's album *Analog Fluids of Sonic Black Holes* for symphony orchestra, string quintet, and narrator, performing alongside Beethovenorchester Bonn and Moor Mother herself.

In June 2021, with Radiohead's permission, Wooden Elephant released their acoustic version of *Kid A* on Berlin label Backlash Music. Two of the tracks were subsequently used in Apple TV's Golden Globe-nominated feature film *Swan Song*, starring Mahershala Ali, Naomie Harris and Glenn Close.

Future plans include developing an acoustic concert version of Aphex Twin's massive double album *Drukqs*, in collaboration with prepared piano specialist Mathias Halvorsen, as well as their version of *Analog Fluids of Sonic Black Holes* with Moor Mother and Beethovenorchester Bonn in the summer of 2023 for general release.

January 2023