EASTMAN RANLET SERIES

TAKÁCS QUARTET

Masterclass

Monday, April 15, 2024
Hatch Recital Hall
10:30 AM



EASTMAN
SCHOOL OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER

PROGRAM

Piano Trio in A Minor, M. 67 — Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)
I. Modéré

Rumeng Liao, violin
Belle Ra, cello
Huiping Cai, piano

String Quartet No. 2 in A Minor (1935) — Florence Price (1887-1953)
I. Moderato

Grace Belsie, violin
Katherine Cheng, violin
Allison Keller, viola
Cori Trenczer, cello

String Quartet No. 4 in C Minor, Op. 18, No. 4 — Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
I. Allegro, ma non tanto

MAPLE QUARTET
Isabel Chen, violin
Magali Pelletey, violin
John Crowley, viola
Gabriel Hennebury, cello

MEET THE ARTISTS



The world-renowned **Takács Quartet** is now entering its forty-ninth season.

Edward Dusinberre, Harumi Rhodes (violins), Richard O'Neill (viola) and András Fejér (cello) are excited about the 2023-2024 season that features varied projects including a new work written for them. Nokuthula Ngwenyama composed Flow, an exploration and celebration of the natural world. The work was commissioned by nine concert presenters throughout the USA. July sees the release of a new recording of works by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor and Dvořák for Hyperion Records, while later in the season the quartet will release works by Schubert including his final String Quartet in G Major. In the Spring of 2024, the ensemble will perform and record piano quintets by Price and Dvořák with long-time chamber music partner Marc-Andre Hamelin.

As Associate Artists at London's Wigmore Hall, the Takács will perform four concerts featuring works by Hough, Price, Janáček, Schubert, and Beethoven. During the season, the ensemble will play at other prestigious European venues including Berlin, Geneva, Linz, Innsbruck, Cambridge, and St. Andrews. The Takács will appear at the Adams Chamber Music Festival in New Zealand. The group's North American engagements include concerts in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington DC, Vancouver, Ann Arbor, Phoenix, Berkeley, Los Angeles, Portland, Cleveland, Santa Fe, and Stanford. The ensemble will perform two Bartók cycles at San Jose State University and Middlebury College and appear for the first time at the Virginia Arts Festival with pianist Olga Kern.

The members of the Takács Quartet are Christoffersen Fellows and Artists in Residence at the University of Colorado, Boulder. For the 23-24 season, the quartet enter into a partnership with El Sistema Colorado, working closely with its chamber music education program in Denver. During the summer months, the Takács join the faculty at the Music Academy of the West, running an intensive quartet seminar.

The Takács has recorded for Hyperion since 2005. Their recordings are available to stream at https://www.hyperion-streaming.co.uk. In 2021, the Takács won a Presto Music Recording of the Year Award for their recordings of string quartets by Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn, and a Gramophone Award with pianist Garrick Ohlsson for piano quintets by Amy Beach and Elgar. Other releases for Hyperion feature works by

Haydn, Schubert, Janáček, Smetana, Debussy, and Britten, as well as piano quintets by César Franck and Shostakovich (with Marc-André Hamelin), and viola quintets by Brahms and Dvořák (with Lawrence Power). For their CDs on the Decca/London label, the Quartet has won three Gramophone Awards, a GRAMMY Award, three Japanese Record Academy Awards, Disc of the Year at the inaugural *BBC Music Magazine* Awards, and Ensemble Album of the Year at the Classical Brits. Full details of all recordings can be found in the Recordings section of the Quartet's website.

The Takács Quartet is known for its innovative programming. In 2021-22, the ensemble partnered with bandoneon virtuoso Julien Labro to premiere new works by Clarice Assad and Bryce Dessner, commissioned by Music Accord. In 2014, the Takács performed a program inspired by Philip Roth's novel *Everyman* with Meryl Streep at Princeton, and again with her at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto in 2015. They first performed *Everyman* at Carnegie Hall in 2007 with Philip Seymour Hoffman. They have toured 14 cities with the poet Robert Pinsky, and played regularly with the Hungarian Folk group Muzsikas.

In 2014, the Takács Quartet became the first string quartet to be awarded the Wigmore Hall Medal. In 2012, Gramophone announced that the Takács was the first string quartet to be inducted into its Hall of Fame. The ensemble also won the 2011 Award for Chamber Music and Song presented by the Royal Philharmonic Society in London.

The Takács Quartet was formed in 1975 at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest by Gabor Takács-Nagy, Károly Schranz, Gabor Ormai and András Fejér, while all four were students. The group received international attention in 1977, winning First Prize and the Critics' Prize at the International String Quartet Competition in Evian, France. The Quartet also won the Gold Medal at the 1978 Portsmouth and Bordeaux Competitions and First Prizes at the Budapest International String Quartet Competition in 1978 and the Bratislava Competition in 1981. The Quartet made its North American debut tour in 1982. Members of the Takács Quartet are the grateful beneficiaries of an instrument loan by the Drake Foundation. We are grateful to be Thomastik-Infeld Artists.

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the "Great Hill People" and "Keepers of the Western Door" of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.

UPCOMING EASTMAN SERIES CONCERTS

Tickets for all series concerts can be purchased at EastmanTheatre.org

EASTMAN RANLET SERIES

Ying Quartet with Xavier Foley, double bass

Kilbourn Hall
Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Double bassist and composer, Xavier Foley, joins the Ying Quartet for the world premiere of his new work. Foley, first prize winner of the 2014 Sphinx Competition and the Young Concert Artists Auditions 2016, has appeared as soloist with the Atlanta Symphony and Philadelphia Orchestra. As a composer, he has studied with Edgar Meyer and Hal Robinson. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* described Foley as "A dazzling player who hears borders between styles as limitation best ignored. He's a standout player.... but he's also a right spark of a composer."

BARBARA B. SMITH WORLD MUSIC SERIES

Oumou Sangaré

Kilbourn Hall
Friday, April 19, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Global superstar, Oumou Sangaré, fuses her distinctive Malian sound and voice with elements of blues, folk, and rock resulting in a timeless body of work free from borders and genres. Sangaré's vocals soar above driving grooves and inescapably danceable rhythms for a show that is sure to have you on your feet!

UPCOMING STUDENT ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman Wind Orchestra

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre
Monday, April 15, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Music of Hailstork, Grant Still, Maslanka, and Gould

OSSIA

Hatch Recital Hall
Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM



For the most up to date information on Eastman concerts and events, scan this code to visit our online calendar.



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