

A graphic on the left side of the page shows a large white curly brace on the left, with four horizontal lines representing musical staves. Each staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The text 'The Endellion String Quartet' is written in a white, elegant cursive script across the staves.

The
Endellion
String
Quartet

FINAL SEASON

WEST ROAD CONCERT HALL
11 WEST ROAD Cambridge CB3 9DP

October 2019 - May 2020

QUARTET *in* RESIDENCE AT



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Andrew Watkinson violin

Ralph de Souza violin

Garfield Jackson viola

David Waterman cello

The Endellion String Quartet

BEETHOVEN CYCLE

FINAL SEASON

To experience all of Beethoven's sixteen quartets – collectively, surely, one of the peaks of human endeavour – is to take a wonderful opportunity both to enter into each of these extraordinarily individual universes, and to hear them in the context of one another. This enables us to appreciate the family resemblances between them, which make them all unmistakably 'Beethoven' – reflecting his profound humanity, integrity, moral seriousness, humour, love, energy and self-belief. It also highlights the myriad differences of character, mood, style and sound-world which make one marvel at the sheer range, fertility and freshness of Beethoven's imagination.

In arranging the programmes, our aim is to give each concert variety and balance by choosing pieces of contrasting character and from different periods.

The six Op.18 quartets are extraordinary masterpieces and not just preludes to what was to follow. Writing them between the ages of 28 and 30, Beethoven had studied and absorbed the language and style of the great quartets of Haydn and Mozart, but the Op.18s are saturated with Beethoven's own personality. At this time he was working and performing with colossal energy, was constantly in and out of love, and already sure of his own powers and their true value.

The 'Razumovsky' quartets and Opp.74 and 95, written between the ages of 35 and 40 broke boundaries in scale and profundity, and in their demands on players and listeners alike. Opp.74 and 95 grope towards yet further innovations. In this period, Beethoven was struggling to come to terms with his growing deafness and the social isolation it was imposing on this wonderfully warm and gregarious man. His cry of pain in the 'Heiligenstadt' testament is heartrending; yet no note of self-pity enters his music.

Beethoven confided his most intimate thoughts to his 'late' quartets, written between the ages of 52 and 57 (the age at which he died). His imaginative powers – free of all conventions, practical restraints and compromises – seemed to deepen as his circumstances

deteriorated. Ill health, loneliness, financial worries, the increasing rarity of performances of his works especially in a Vienna besotted with Rossini, the attempted suicide of his beloved nephew and ward, Karl – all these were the background to these late works of genius which so baffled Beethoven's contemporaries, and about which he calmly explained they 'were written for a later age'.

Wednesday, 23 October 2019

String Quartet in E minor Op.59 No.2 ('Razumovsky')
String Quartet in B flat Op.130 (with Große Fuge finale)

Wednesday 20 November 2019

String Quartet in A Op.18 No.5
String Quartet in G Op.18 No.2
String Quartet in A minor Op.132

Wednesday 29 January 2020

String Quartet in B flat Op.18 No.6
String Quartet in F Op.135
String Quartet in E flat Op.74 ('Harp')

Wednesday 26 February 2020

String Quartet in F minor Op.95 ('Serioso')
String Quartet in C minor Op.18 No.4
String Quartet in F Op.59 No.1 ('Razumovsky')

Wednesday, 22 April 2020

String Quartet in F Op.18 No.1
String Quartet in C Op.59 No.3 ('Razumovsky')
String Quartet in C sharp minor Op.131

Wednesday 20 May 2020

String Quartet in D Op.18 No.3
String Quartet in F major Op.14 No.1
arr. Beethoven from Piano Sonata in E major
String Quartet Op.130: Alternative Finale
String Quartet in E flat Op.127

All concerts will begin at 7.30 p.m. and end at approximately 9.30 p.m.

Booking information

Tickets: £28, £26 (65+), £14 (Reg. disabled), £6 (Student, Under 16s). HALF PRICE (standard or 65+ tickets only) available for restricted view seats.

Group discount: 20% off for groups of 10+ (plus free programmes for each group member).

Tickets available from Monday, 23 September 2019 from: Cambridge Live Tickets, 2 Wheeler Street, Cambridge CB2 3QB.

Opening times: Telephone: Mon-Sat, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
In person: Mon-Fri, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Sat, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Box office tel: 01223 357851
email: tickets@cambridgelive.org.uk
online: www.cambridgelivetickets.co.uk

Ticket returns: Tickets may be exchanged for another Endellion performance in this series if returned to the Cambridge Live Tickets box office more than 48 hours prior to the event and tickets are still available.

Mailing list: To join the Endellion String Quartet's mailing list, please email: sarahbiggs01@btinternet.com.

The Endellion String Quartet is most grateful to Nigel Brown OBE and The Stradivari Trust for their continuing support of the Quartet and its recordings.



The Stradivari Trust

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