

## The Morrison Artists Series 2016-17 Concert Season



Dear Morrison Artists Series Patrons,

It's a great pleasure to introduce you to the coming season of the Morrison Artists Series, ushering in a new and inspiring year of outstanding chamber music performances offered admission-free to San Francisco Bay Area audiences.

Here's the season at a glance:

Sunday, September 18, 2016, 3pm: San Francisco State's resident **Alexander String Quartet** continues to delight and inspire Bay Area audiences with its superb performances of classical, romantic and modern repertoire.

Sunday, November 6, 2016, 3pm: the exciting young **Inscape** ensemble from our nation's capitol is pushing the boundaries of classical music with riveting performances that reach across genres and generations.

Sunday, December 4, 2016, 3pm: the **Peabody Trio**, vivid interpreters of the classics and enthusiastic advocates for new music, praised by the New York Times for its "beautifully polished, lush sound."

Friday, February 10, 2017, 8pm: the **Juilliard String Quartet**, known through its performances and recordings as the quintessential American string quartet, returns to McKenna Theater with its new cellist, Astrid Schween.

Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 8pm: Hailed by The New Yorker as "a fresh and vital young participant in what is a golden age of American string quartets," the **Daedalus Quartet** has established itself as a leader among the new generation of string ensembles.

Friday, April 7, 2017, 8pm: Winners of the 2015 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition, the lauded young **Van Kuijk Quartet** from France gives its U.S. Debut performance on the Morrison Artists Series.

Friday, April 28, 2017, 8pm: The young, a cappella quintet **Calmus** embodies the rich choral history of its hometown of Leipzig, Germany, synonymous with the great musical tradition of Bach and Mendelssohn

Please scroll down for more information about our 2016-17 artists and the repertoire they'll be performing. Please accept my personal invitation to join me for this superb new season, filled with musical gems and moving performances. All concerts take place in San Francisco State's McKenna Theater. For more information please visit our web site at <http://morrison.sfsu.edu>.

As always, we offer a pre-concert talk one hour prior to each performance, and the public is cordially invited to observe master classes in the San Francisco State School of Music led by our guest artists.

Thank you as always for your enthusiastic participation as a member of the Morrison Artists Series' distinguished audience. I look forward to seeing you in McKenna Theater!

Richard Festinger  
Artistic Director

## Morrison Artists Series 2016-17 Concert Season

### Alexander String Quartet

Sunday, September 18, 2016, 3pm, with pre-concert talk at 2 pm.  
Master class Friday, September 16, 2:10 pm, in Knuth Recital Hall.

Having celebrated its 30th Anniversary in 2011, the Alexander String Quartet has performed in the major music capitals of five continents, securing its standing among the world's premier ensembles. Widely admired for its interpretations of Beethoven, Mozart, and Shostakovich, the quartet's recordings of the Beethoven, Bartók and Shostakovich cycles have won international critical acclaim. The quartet has also established itself as an important advocate of new music.



The Quartet is a major artistic presence in its home base of San Francisco, serving since 1989 as Directors of the Morrison Chamber Music Center in the College of Liberal and Creative Arts at San Francisco State University.

Program:

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809), String Quartet in E flat major, Op. 74, No. 3 (1793), "The Rider".  
Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1975), String Quartet No. 13 in B flat minor, Op. 138 (1970).  
Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), String Quartet No. 8 in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2 (1808).

## **Inscape**

Sunday, November 6, 2016, 3pm, with pre-concert talk at 2 pm.  
Master class Monday, November 7, noon, in Knuth Recital Hall.



Founded in 2004, the critically acclaimed, GRAMMY nominated Inscape Ensemble is a group of high energy master musicians that has quickly established itself as one of the premier performing ensembles in the Washington, DC region and beyond. Inscape has worked joyously and often with emerging American composers and has a commitment to the music of our time. Inscape members regularly perform with the National, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Virginia, Richmond, and Delaware symphonies, and the Washington Opera Orchestra, and are

members of the premiere Washington service bands. Inscape regularly performs at the National Gallery of Art, Strathmore Music Center, Kennedy Center and other local and national venues, and records exclusively for Dorian Sono Luminus.

### Program:

Paul Moravec (b. 1957), *Tempest Fantasy*, for clarinet, violin, cello and piano (2003), winner of 2004 Pulitzer Prize in Music.

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992), *Quatuor pour le fin du temps* (Quartet for the end of time), for clarinet, violin, cello and piano, (1940).

## **Peabody Trio**

Sunday, December 4, 2016, 3pm with pre-concert talk at 2 pm.  
Master class Monday, 12/5, noon, in Knuth Recital Hall.

Since winning the prestigious Naumburg Chamber Music Award in 1989, The Peabody Trio has established itself as an important presence in the chamber music world, bringing to their music making what *The Washington Post* calls “the romantic fervor of the 20th century greats.” The trio gave its New York debut in 1990 at Alice Tully Hall and has since performed in the most important chamber music series in North America, including New York, Washington, Chicago, Denver, Vancouver, Montreal, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. They tour

frequently internationally, with appearances at London's Wigmore Hall, and in Japan and Israel. Their reputation as champions of new music garnered them an invitation to the first Biennale for contemporary music, Tempus Fugit, in Tel Aviv.

Program:

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), Trio No. 3 in C minor, Op 1, No. 3 (1793).

Charles Ives (1874-1954), Trio for violin, cello and piano (1904-1911, rev. 1914-1915).

Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904), Trio No. 3 in F minor, Op. 65 (1883).



### **Juilliard Quartet**

Friday, February 10, 2017, 8pm, with pre-concert talk at 7 pm.

Master class Friday 2/10, 10 am, locations TBA.

The Juilliard String Quartet, widely known as the quintessential American string quartet, welcomes its new cellist, Astrid Schween. This season the JSQ premieres *Fragments*, String Quartet No. 6 by renowned Argentine-American composer Mario Davidovsky, jointly commissioned by the Arizona Friends of Chamber Music and the Juilliard School. In January,



the Quartet tours Spain, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and Turkey, including appearances at the Muziekgebouw in Amsterdam, the Musikverein in Vienna, and the Berlin Konzerthaus. The Quartet's recordings of the Bartok and Schoenberg Quartets, as well as those of Debussy, Ravel and Beethoven won Grammy Awards, and in 2011 the Quartet became the first classical music ensemble to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Academy of

Recording Arts and Sciences. In performance, recordings and incomparable work educating the major artists and quartets of our time, the Juilliard String Quartet has carried the banner of the United States and The Juilliard School throughout the world.

Program:

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), String Quartet No. 11, Opus 95 (1814), “Serioso”.  
Mario Davidovsky (b. 1934), New Work, commissioned by the Juilliard String Quartet.  
Ludwig van Beethoven, String Quartet in B flat major, Op. 130, with the Grosse Fuge (1825).

### **Daedalus Quartet**

Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 8pm, with pre-concert talk at 7 pm.  
Master class date and location TBA.

Since winning the top prize in the Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2001, the Daedalus Quartet has impressed critics and listeners alike with the security, technical finish, interpretive unity, and sheer gusto of its performances. The New York Times has praised the Daedalus Quartet’s “insightful and vibrant” Haydn, the “impressive intensity” of their Beethoven, their “luminous” Berg, and the “riveting focus” of their Dutilleux. The Washington



Post in turn has acclaimed their performance of Mendelssohn for its “rockets of blistering virtuosity,” while the Houston Chronicle has described the “silvery beauty” of their Schubert and the “magic that hushed the audience” when they played Ravel, the Boston Globe the “finesse and fury” of their Shostakovich, the Toronto Globe and Mail the “thrilling revelation” of their

Hindemith, and the Cincinnati Enquirer the “tremendous emotional power” of their Brahms. The Daedalus Quartet has served as Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Pennsylvania since 2006. In 2007, the Quartet was awarded Lincoln Center’s Martin E. Segal Award, and Chamber Music America’s prestigious Guarneri String Quartet Award.

Program:

Leoš Janáček (1854-1928), String Quartet No. 1 (1923), “Kreutzer Sonata”.

Louis Karchin (b. 1951), String Quartet No. 1, World Premiere performance, commissioned by the Morrison Artists Series for the Daedalus String Quartet.

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897), String Quartet No. 3 in B flat major, Op. 67 (1875).

### **Quatuor Van Kuijk**

Friday, April 7, 2017, 8pm, with pre-concert talk at 7 pm.

Master class Friday April 7, 2pm, in Knuth Recital Hall.

Winners of the First prize, Haydn prize and Beethoven prize at the 2015 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition, 2014 laureates of the Aix-en-Provence Festival Academy, First prize and Audience Award winners at the International String Quartet Competition in Trondheim, Norway, and laureates of the FNAPEC Ensembles Music Competition in France, the Van Kuijk Quartet is today among the world’s most promising young quartets.



An established presence in major international venues, the Van Kuijk Quartet has performed at the Salle Gaveau in Paris, Wigmore Hall in London, Tivoli Concert Series in Denmark, the Sage Gateshead, and at festivals in Cheltenham, North Norfolk, Heidelberg, Verbier, Aix-en-Provence and Stavanger. Upcoming appearances include the Auditorium du Louvre in Paris, the Zurich Tonhalle, and the Vienna Musikverein. This season they will Join the BBC New Generation Artists roster, and also embark on their first tour of North America, which includes their San Francisco debut performance on the Morrison Artists Series.

Program:

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809), String Quartet in B flat Major, Op. 76 No. 4, “*Sunrise*” (1796-7).  
Franz Schubert (1897-1828), String Quartet in E flat Major, D. 87, Op. posth. 125, No. 1 (1813).  
Maurice Ravel (1875-1937), String Quartet in F (1903).

### **Calmus**

Friday, April 28, 2017, with pre-concert talk at 7 pm.

Master class date and location TBA.

Whether singing music by those German masters or other works in its diverse repertoire, Calmus captivates both audiences and critics with its charming stage presence, flawless technique and entertaining presentation. All graduates of Leipzig’s renowned St. Thomas Church Choir School, Calmus offers the unique combination of a pure soprano voice with four male voices ranging from bass to countertenor. The seamless blend of these five voices lends itself to the



almost limitless range of music the ensemble offers, from renaissance and baroque masters through great German romantic works, all the way to contemporary choral repertoire, as well as pop songs and jazz. With over fifteen recordings to its credit, Calmus' CD, *Madrigals of Madness*, was selected by the New York Times as one of the best CD's of 2014, and their latest release, *Christmas Carols of the World*, led to a special 2015 Holiday concert at New York Public Radio's The Greene Space, with live video streaming on WQXR's website.

Program:

Calmus' program will include a rich and varied selection of vocal settings from Gregorian chant to medieval, renaissance, romantic and contemporary works commemorating the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation and musical connections to the songs and hymns of Martin Luther.