



## Sample String Quartet Concert Programs

Compiled by [Peabody LAUNCHPad](#), Updated Aug. 2018

We offer these programs, organized in three categories, to help rising musicians develop distinctive programs of their own. Programs marked with asterisks have descriptions included on pages 4-5.

1. Programs Built on a Concept
2. Programs with Newer Repertoire
3. Conventional Programs with a Twist

### 1. Programs Built on a Concept

#### **Del Sol String Quartet**

**Fast Blue Village:** Fast Blue Village features works from internationally acclaimed composers reflecting the vibrant sounds and rhythms of diverse cultures from around the world.

<a href="#">Jose Evangelista</a>	Spanish Garland
<a href="#">Lembit Beecher</a>	These Memories May Be True
<a href="#">Chinary Ung</a>	Spiral X: In Memoriam, for amplified string quartet with vocalizations
--Intermission--	
<a href="#">Mohammed Fairouz</a>	The Named Angels
<a href="#">Elena Kats Chernin</a>	Fast Blue Village

#### **Del Sol String Quartet**

**Superflat:** Music that blurs the lines of pop art and high art, with works reflecting the influences of classical, jazz and pop idioms.

<a href="#">Mads Tolling</a>	Commission for Del Sol Quartet
<a href="#">Philip Glass</a>	String Quartet No. 5
<a href="#">Ben Johnston</a>	Revised Standards: "Gershwin, Rogers, Kern"
--Intermission--	
<a href="#">Ben Johnston</a>	Revised Standards: "Set for Billie Holiday"
<a href="#">John Cage</a>	String Quartet in Four Parts
<a href="#">Mason Bates</a>	Bagatelles for Amplified String Quartet and Electronica

#### **PUBLIQuartet\***

##### **Hidden Connections**

Igor Stravinsky	Three Pieces for String Quartet
Claude Debussy, arr. Norpoth	Prelude No. 6, "General Lavine – Eccentric"
Claude Debussy	String Quartet, Op. 10
<a href="#">Thelonious Monk</a>	Green Chimneys
<a href="#">Charlie Parker</a>	Ah-Leu-Cha
<a href="#">Thelonious Monk</a>	Off Minor
Claude Debussy, arr. Norpoth	Golliwogg's Cakewalk (from Children's Corner)

#### **Amphion String Quartet\***

##### **Pioneer**

Ludwig van Beethoven	String Quartet, Op. 18 No. 1
Igor Stravinsky	Three Pieces
Ruth Crawford Seeger	String Quartet
Felix Mendelssohn	String Quartet, Op. 80

## **Del Sol String Quartet**

**Earth Cry:** A program exploring both the beauty and complexity of the environment through the incredible medium of string quartet sound.

<u>Oswaldo Golijov</u>	Tenebrae
<u>Peter Sculthorpe</u>	String Quartet No. 18 (with dijeridu)
--Intermission--	
<u>Irene Sazer</u>	Thunder
<u>Robert Erickson</u>	Solstice
<u>Robert Honstein</u>	Arctic

## **JACK Quartet, w/ Mivos Quartet | Columbia University, Friday, Feb. 27, 2015**

### **A Concert of World Premieres**

<u>David Bird</u>	drop, w/ Mivos Quartet
<u>Paul Clift</u>	colours are like memories of other colours, w/ Mivos Quartet
<u>Alec Hall</u>	28 Hours
<u>Yair Klartag</u>	Polychronization
<u>Matthew Ricketts</u>	In Partial View
<u>John Rot</u>	whether wandering, w/ Mivos Quartet

## **Del Sol String Quartet**

**Amping Up:** A program reflecting the vigor and spirit of amplified music

<u>Ken Ueno</u>	Peradam
<u>Mason Bates</u>	Bagatelles for Amplified String Quartet and Electronica
--Intermission--	
<u>Elena Kats Chernin</u>	Fast Blue Village
<u>Keeril Makan</u>	Tear
<u>Béla Bartók</u>	String Quartet No. 4

## **2. Programs with Newer Repertoire**

### **Calder Quartet | Jordan Hall, NEC, Friday, Feb. 20, 2015**

<u>Andrew Norman</u>	Sabina
Maurice Ravel	String Quartet In F Major
<u>Thomas Adès</u>	Arcadiana for String Quartet, Op. 12
Ludwig van Beethoven	String Quartet No. 11 In F minor, Opus 95 "Serioso"

### **Shanghai Quartet | Rockport Music, Saturday, June 21, 2014**

Franz Schubert	Quartettsatz In C minor, D.703
<u>Zhou Long</u>	Song Of The Ch'in
<u>Krzysztof Penderecki</u>	Quartet No. 3, "Leaves Of An Unwritten Diary"
Ludwig van Beethoven	Quartet In C Major, Op.59/3 "Razumovsky"

### **Mivos Quartet | Miller Theatre POP UP Concert, Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2014**

<u>Martin Stauning</u>	Atmende Steine (2013)
J. S. Bach, arr. <u>Higgins</u>	Contrapunctus XIX (arr. 2013)
<u>György Kurtág</u>	Hommage à András: 12 Mikroludien für Streichquartett, Op. 13 (1977)

### **Kronos Quartet | Late Nights at Zankel Hall, Saturday, March 7, 2015\***

<u>Merlijn Twaalfhoven</u>	On Parole (World Premiere)
<u>Bryce Dessner</u>	Tenebre
<u>Derek Charke</u>	Dear Creator, help us return to the centre of our hearts
<u>Aleksandra Vrebalov</u>	Beyond Zero: 1914–1918 (for quartet with film)
& <u>Bill Morrison</u>	

### **JACK Quartet | Philharmonie Luxembourg, Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2015**

Ruth Crawford Seeger	String Quartet
<u>Elliott Carter</u>	String Quartet No. 3
Carlo Gesualdo, arr. Streisfeld	Three madrigals
<u>Georg Friedrich Haas</u>	String Quartet No. 8
<u>John Zorn</u>	The Dead Man
<u>Iannis Xenakis</u>	Tetras

### **Apollon Musagète Quartet | Weill Recital Hall, Friday, Nov. 7, 2014\***

Antonín Dvořák	String Quartet No. 11 in C Major, Op. 61
Karol Szymanowski	String Quartet No. 2
Dmitri Shostakovich	String Quartet No. 4 in D Major
Igor Stravinsky	Tango for String Quartet (arr. Wolfgang Birtel)

## **3. Conventional Programs with a Twist**

### **Borromeo String Quartet | Weill Recital Hall, Friday, Oct. 10, 2014**

Dmitri Shostakovich	String Quartet No. 3 in F Major
Béla Bartók	String Quartet No. 6
Benjamin Britten	String Quartet No. 2 in C Major

### **Artemis Quartet | Zankel Hall, Wednesday, April 15, 2015\***

Antonín Dvořák	String Quartet No. 12 in F Major, Op. 96 "American"
<u>Pēteris Vasks</u>	String Quartet No. 5
Bedrich Smetana	String Quartet No. 1 in E minor, "From My Life"

### **Emerson String Quartet | NEC's Jordan Hall, Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015**

Henry Purcell	Two Fantasias & Chacony (arr. Benjamin Britten)
<u>Lowell Liebermann</u>	String Quartet
Ludwig van Beethoven	String Quartet No. 15 in A minor, Op. 132

### **Escher String Quartet w/ Jennifer Zetlan | Alice Tully Hall, Sunday, March 15, 2015**

#### **Voces intimae**

Franz Schubert	Quartet in A minor for Strings, D. 804, Op. 29 No. 1 "Rosamunde" (1824)
Alban Berg	Lyric Suite for String Quartet (1925-26)
Jean Sibelius	Quartet in D minor for Strings, Op. 56, "Voces intimae" (1909)

### **St. Lawrence String Quartet | Zankel Hall, Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015\***

Franz Joseph Haydn	String Quartet in F minor, Op. 20 No. 5
<u>John Adams</u>	Second Quartet
Ludwig van Beethoven	String Quartet in C-sharp minor, Op. 131

### **Artemis Quartet | Zankel Hall, Sunday, March 23, 2014**

Johannes Brahms	String Quartet in C minor, Op. 51 No. 1
<u>György Kurtág</u>	Officium breve in memoriam Andreae Szervánszky
Ludwig van Beethoven	String Quartet in C-sharp minor, Op. 131
J. S. Bach	Prelude & Fugue in E minor, Well-Tempered Clavier Book II, BWV 879

### **Pacifica Quartet | CMSLC, Alice Tully Hall, Friday, Nov. 7, 2014**

Franz Joseph Haydn	Quartet in B-Flat Major for Strings, Hob. III:78, Op. 76 No. 4 "Sunrise"
<u>Shulamit Ran</u>	Glitter, Doom, Shards, Memory, Quartet No. 3 for Strings
Giacomo Puccini	Crisantemi for String Quartet
Felix Mendelssohn	Quartet in F minor for Strings, Op. 80

### **Takács Quartet | Zankel Hall, Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015**

Franz Joseph Haydn	String Quartet in C Major, Op. 74, No. 1
<u>Timo Andres</u>	New Work
Antonín Dvořák	String Quartet No. 14 in A-Flat Major, Op. 105

### **Jasper String Quartet | Weill Recital Hall, Salon Encores, Friday, Feb. 19, 2016\***

Franz Joseph Haydn	String Quartet in G Major, Op. 76 No. 1
<u>Aaron Jay Kernis</u>	String Quartet No. 3
Claude Debussy	String Quartet in G minor

### **Kelemen Quartet | Weill Recital Hall, Salon Encores, Friday, Oct. 23, 2015\***

Franz Joseph Haydn	String Quartet in D minor, Op. 76 No. 2 "Fifths"
<u>György Kurtág</u>	Six moments musicaux, Op. 44
Béla Bartók	String Quartet No. 5

## **SELECTED PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Kronos Quartet | Late Nights at Zankel Hall**

The Kronos Quartet continues to expand the range and context of the string quartet. This concert includes a new work commissioned by Carnegie Hall and Beyond Zero: 1914–1918, an extraordinary multimedia production that features music by Aleksandra Vrebalov and a film by Bill Morrison. A native of the former Yugoslavia, Vrebalov's work recounts her firsthand experiences in the war-torn Balkans of the 1990s, set against Morrison's film that includes seldom-seen World War I footage from the Library of Congress.

(from [Carnegie Hall](#), accessed 3/4/15)

### **Apollon Musagète Quartet | Salon Encores, Weill Recital Hall**

A fascinating variety of quartet styles from Central and Eastern Europe are featured. Commissioned by Vienna's Hellmesberger Quartet, Dvořák set aside his Czech nationalism in his String Quartet in C Major, a work looking back to the quartets of the Viennese school. Shostakovich's String Quartet No. 4 opens in pastoral calm, but grows more intense as it explores Jewish themes—a potentially lethal path in the time of Stalin's Jewish purges. Szymanowski's String Quartet No. 2, with its wide spectrum of color and expression, is one of the Polish master's finest works.

(from [Carnegie Hall](#), accessed 3/4/15)

### **Amphion String Quartet | Pioneer**

This program features composers who pushed the envelope of string quartet writing. Beethoven's Op. 18 established him as a composer who, starting under the influence of Haydn, mastered string quartet writing in ways that influenced all those who came after him. Stravinsky's Three Pieces utilize the four stringed instruments in ways never thought of before, and Ruth Crawford Seeger's Quartet 1931 is a prime example of the American Modernism movement (also worth noting was her influence on American composer Elliott Carter). The program ends with Mendelssohn, whose rediscovery of Bach and passionate advocacy of Beethoven helped shaped the musical landscape of Europe at the time. His last string quartet, Op. 80, after the untimely death of his beloved sister Fanny, brings tumult and dissonance to the four instruments.

(from [Concert Artists Guild](#), accessed 4/1/15)

## **PUBLIQuartet**

In this program, PUBLIQuartet focuses on the hidden connections between several of the world's most iconic musical figures. Igor Stravinsky and Charlie Parker were great admirers of one another and studied each other's work. Stravinsky's Three Pieces are playful and unpredictable, inspired in part by the humorously exaggerated gestures of the famous English music-hall clown "Little Tich." Similar in nature is Debussy's Prelude No. 6, inspired by the American clown Edward Lavine. Debussy's famous String Quartet uses brilliant textures, rhythms and harmonies imbued with the French culture. Thelonious Monk's Off Minor and Green Chimneys use rhythmic figures and harmonic devices that are heard in the music of Stravinsky and Debussy.

(from [Concert Artists Guild](#), accessed 4/1/15)

## **Artemis Quartet | Zankel Hall**

String quartets by two beloved Czech composers frame an intense quartet by a contemporary Latvian master. Dvořák's "American" Quartet was written shortly after his "New World" Symphony and, like the symphony, reveals his fascination with the Native American music and African American spirituals he heard during his US stay (1892–1895). The young Dvořák played viola in the premiere of Smetana's String Quartet No. 1, a deeply personal work that Smetana called, "a tone picture of my life, my youthful leanings towards art and the Romantic atmosphere." While not overtly autobiographical, Pēteris Vasks's music does speak to the history of his homeland and its struggles.

(from [Carnegie Hall](#), accessed 3/4/15)

## **Jasper String Quartet | Weill Recital Hall, Salon Encores, Friday, February 19, 2016**

The beautifully poignant second-movement Adagio duet for viola and cello is just one of many unforgettable moments in Haydn's String Quartet in G Major, Op. 76 No. 1. This superbly crafted late work delights with its elegant opening, athletic scherzo, and finale that shifts episodes of light and dark before a joyous resolution. Debussy's String Quartet, one of his first major works, adheres to the traditional four-movement model of Haydn, but that's where similarities end. Debussy introduced daring textures, chords, and harmonies that were quite novel for 1893 in this intoxicating quartet that foreshadows his later musical style.

(from [Carnegie Hall](#), accessed 3/4/15)

## **St. Lawrence String Quartet | Zankel Hall, Thursday, October 29, 2015**

From its serious opening movement to its remarkable concluding fugue, Haydn's String Quartet in F Minor, Op. 20, No. 5, is emotionally intense and visionary. Beethoven's String Quartet in C-sharp Minor, Op. 131, goes even further, cast in seven sections and played without pause. This monumental work of shifting moods explores new realms of tonality and form. John Adams's explorations of new musical territories will also be evidenced in the New York premiere of his String Quartet No. 2.

(from [Carnegie Hall](#), accessed 3/4/15)

## **Kelemen Quartet | Weill Recital Hall, Salon Encores, Friday, October 23, 2015**

The young Hungarian quartet performs music by two of its countrymen—Bartók and Kurtág—and a late Haydn quartet. Bartók's Fifth String Quartet is remarkable for its unconventional harmonies, shifting textures, and energetic pulse; particularly in its Bulgarian folk music-inspired Scherzo. Kurtág modeled his Six moments musicaux on Schubert's piano pieces of the same name, but also makes references to Bach, Beethoven, and his own music.

(from [Carnegie Hall](#), accessed 3/4/15)