



Press Release

January 10, 2019

THE JUILLIARD STRING QUARTET PERFORMS BOLD INTERPRETATIONS OF TRADITIONAL FAVORITES IN FEBRUARY FORTAS CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

(WASHINGTON)—The ever-evolving chamber music ensemble that is the Juilliard String Quartet returns to the Kennedy Center in February with a program consisting of three composers integral to the history of string quartet repertoire: Joseph Haydn’s String Quartet in F major, Op. 77, No. 2; Béla Bartók’s String Quartet No. 3, Sz. 85; and Ludwig van Beethoven’s String Quartet in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2 “Razumovsky.” The Quartet is noted for its exciting interpretations of traditional works, unafraid to experiment, yet faithful to each composer’s intent.

One of the most iconic string quartets in the world, the Juilliard String Quartet has had many members throughout its 72 year history. Currently, the group comprises Areta Zhulla and Ronald Copes, violins; Roger Tapping, viola; and Astrid Schween, cello. The performance takes place [Wednesday, February 6, at 7:30 p.m.](#) in the Kennedy Center Terrace Theater.

ABOUT JUILLIARD STRING QUARTET

With unparalleled artistry and enduring vigor, the Juilliard String Quartet continues to inspire audiences around the world. Founded in 1946 and hailed by the Boston Globe as “the most important American quartet in history,” the Juilliard draws on a deep and vital engagement to the classics, while embracing the mission of championing new works, a vibrant combination of the familiar and the daring. Each performance of the Juilliard Quartet is a unique experience, bringing together the four members’ profound understanding, total commitment, and unceasing curiosity in sharing the wonders of the string quartet literature.

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Devoted master teachers, the members of the Juilliard String Quartet offer classes and open rehearsals when on tour. The Juilliard String Quartet is string quartet in residence at Juilliard and its members are all sought-after teachers on the string and chamber music faculties. Each May, they host the five-day internationally recognized Juilliard String Quartet Seminar. During the summer, the Juilliard String Quartet works closely on string quartet repertoire with students at the Tanglewood Music Center.

ABOUT FORTAS CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS

The 2018–2019 season marks the 36th season of the Kennedy Center’s chamber music series, established in the 1981–1982 season by Marta Istomin, who, at the time, was the Kennedy Center’s Artistic Director. The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts, established as part of the Terrace Concerts during the 1983–1984 season, began a vibrant new life in the 1999–2000 season when—in addition to the generous contributions of loyal supporters of the Fortas Fund—income from a major gift to the Fortas Fund from the late Carolyn E. Agger, widow of Abe Fortas, became available to support the artistic programming. The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts series is named for the former Supreme Court Justice, who was instrumental in the creation of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and later, the Terrace Theater. The Kennedy Center’s Board of Trustees established the Abe Fortas Memorial Fund in 1982 for the support of concerts in the Terrace Theater, and for the further development of the musical programs he envisioned.

Pianist Joseph Kalichstein has served as the Kennedy Center’s Artistic Advisor for Chamber Music and Artistic Director of the Fortas Concerts since 1997. The Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio has been the Kennedy Center’s Ensemble-in-Residence since 2003. In the 2018–2019 season, the Dover Quartet begins a three-year residency as the Center’s Quartet-in-Residence.

Through its history the series has featured frequent appearances by artists such as the Guarneri, Emerson, Juilliard, Takács, and Alban Berg Quartets; early music ensembles Anonymous 4, Trio Medieval, and the Waverly Consort; performances by Eugene Istomin, Emanuel Ax, Edgar Meyer, Susan Graham, Isaac Stern, and Yo-Yo Ma; as well as many other distinguished artists and ensembles that actively perform and commission new works.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

Wednesday, February 6, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.

Juilliard String Quartet
Areta Zhulla, violin
Ronald Copes, violin
Roger Tapping, viola
Astrid Schween, cello

HAYDN	String Quartet in F major, Op. 77, No. 2
BARTÓK	String Quartet No. 3, Sz. 85
BEETHOVEN	String Quartet in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2 “Razumovsky”

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets (\$45) are available at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online at kennedy-center.org, and via phone through Instant Charge, (202) 467-4700; toll-free at (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

FUNDING CREDITS

The Fortas Chamber Music Concerts are supported by generous contributors to the

Abe Fortas Memorial Fund, and by a major gift to the fund from the late Carolyn E. Agger, widow of Abe Fortas.

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For more information, please visit the [Kennedy Center website](http://www.kennedy-center.org).



#KCFortas

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