

PARKER QUARTET

2017 - 2018 Repertoire

Program I - Metamorphosis

Mozart: Quartet in B-flat major, K. 589

Ligeti: Quartet No. 1, *Métamorphoses nocturnes*

Bartók: Quartet No. 4

Program II - Faces

Stravinsky: Concertino

Ligeti: Quartet No. 2

Beethoven: Quartet in B-Flat Major, Op.130, with Grosse Fuge, Op. 133

Program III

Mendelssohn: Quartet in E minor, Op. 44, No. 2

Beethoven: Quartet in B-Flat Major, Op.130, with Grosse Fuge, Op. 133

As we celebrate György Ligeti's string quartets during the 2017-18 season, we wanted to highlight both the first and second quartet in a way that would reflect its larger meaning. Ligeti claimed that in the midst of these demanding and exploratory works are traces of the great composers - Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert - who wrote some of their most personal and ambitious works for the string quartet genre.

In Program I - Metamorphosis, we begin by paying homage to one of these greats, Mozart, with his K. 589 quartet. This is followed by Ligeti's Quartet No. 1, *Métamorphoses nocturnes*, which is one of the most visceral, thrilling works that we've ever played. As a fellow Hungarian, it is obvious that Béla Bartók was on his mind while he wrote this work. Although he only had access to the scores of Bartók's third and fourth quartets, it is fascinating to hear his influence. With Bartók's Quartet No.4 closing the program, there will be a chance to peek into two completely unique voices that share a common spirit.

With Stravinsky's Concertino and Beethoven's Op. 130, Program II - Faces, highlights the many different perspectives of a composer. At the heart of the program lies Ligeti's Quartet No. 2. Strongly influenced by electronic music, this work faces five different concepts. Whether it is an overture, flotation, a machine, powerful star, or infinity itself, each movement focuses on a singular idea. In Beethoven's Op. 130 quartet we can find many different perspectives as well. Whether it demonstrates his skill at writing fleeting yet daring scherzos, music of sublime beauty in the Cavatina, or the extraordinary brilliance that is the Grosse Fuge - Op.130 captures it all.

Programs must be approved by the Quartet. Repertoire subject to change.

Please choose the desired program and email Jessica Shook at jessica@mkiartists.com with your selection.