

Biography | September 2025

Kyoka Misawa | violin
Rintaro Kikuno | violin
Itsuki Yamamoto | viola
Ye Un Park | violoncello

Described as having “an enormous wealth of colors... and sparkling rhythms” (All News Press), the Quartet Integra has quickly developed a reputation of international prestige. In 2022, the Quartet won the Second Prize and the coveted Audience Award at the 2022 ARD International Music Competition, First Prize at the 2021 Bartók World Competition, and First Prize and the Prize of Beethoven and Grand Prix Award at the 2019 Akiyoshidai Music Competition. Additionally, Quartet Integra have received the prize Banca Monte dei Paschi in the 2021 Accademia Musicale Chigiana, the Kirishima International Music Festival Prize and Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi Music Director Prize in the 2021 Kirishima International Music Festival.

In Europe, the ensemble has performed in venues such as the Alte Oper Frankfurt, Bad Tölz, Wiesloch, Florence, Siena and Naples. It has worked with artists such as Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, Noah Bendix-Balgley, Kazuhide Isomura, Inon Barnatan, Fabio Bidini, Shigeo Neriki, Augustin Hadelich and Orion Weiss.

At the invitation of Günter Pichler (formerly of the Alban Berg Quartet), the ensemble took part in the Chigiana Summer Festival in Siena with a scholarship and performed at festivals such as Crans Montana Classics, Toyama Chamber Music Festival and Kirishima International Music Festival. It has been regularly invited to the Takefu International Music Festival since 2023.

The quartet, which also devotes itself intensively to contemporary compositions, has commissioned numerous works from Japanese composers and has performed more than a dozen world premieres to date.

The Quartet Integra, formed in 2015 and began its formation with Kazuhide Isomura and Nobuko Yamazaki at Toho Gakuen School of Music. It continued as fellow at the Suntory Hall Chamber Music Academy and with master classes with Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Peter Oundjian, Milena Pajaro-Van de Stadt, Jean-Guihen Queyras, and the Jerusalem, Henschel, Atrium, Voce, and Shanghai String Quartet. The quartet was part of the Chamber Ensemble-in-Residence Program at the Colburn School, studying with Martin Beaver, Jonathan Brown und Clive Greensmith. From autumn 2025, the quartet will begin postgraduate studies with Oliver Wille in Hanover and will also be supported by ProQuartet Paris.

The Quartet Integra is supported by the Matsuo Foundation.