

Biography | Oktober 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), Quartet Integra is quickly developing a reputation of international prestige. In 2022, the quartet won Second Prize and the coveted Audience Award at the 2022 ARD International Music Competition, First Prize at the 2021 Bartók World Competition, and Third Prize along with the Sidney Griller Award at the 2025 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition. Additionally, Quartet Integra has received the Banca Monte dei Paschi Prize at the 2021 Accademia Musicale Chigiana, and the Kirishima International Music Festival Prize and Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi Music Director Prize at the 2021 Kirishima International Music Festival.

Recent and upcoming performances in North America include recitals at the Schneider Concert Series at the New School, Green Shoots Initiative at the Kennedy Center, Discovery Series at the La Jolla Music Society, Artist Series at the University of Boulder, ECHO Chamber Music Series, Nevada Chamber Music Festival, Santa Ynez Valley Series, and performances in Thayer and Zipper Halls at the Colburn School.

Appearances in Europe include the Alte Oper Frankfurt and many other venues in Bad Tölz, Wiesloch, Florence, Siena, and Naples. Having already performed in numerous venues in Japan, they also give recitals annually in Toppan Hall and Oji Hall. In May 2025, they launched a six-year Beethoven Cycle in Dai-ichi Seimei Hall, Philia Hall, Munetsugu Hall, and Wakita Cordia Hall.

Quartet Integra has performed and worked with artists including Augustin Hadelich, Noah Bendix-Balgley, Kazuhide Isomura, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, Alexander Melnikov, Inon Barnatan, Fabio Bidini, Shigeo Neriki, Orion Weiss, and the Calidore String Quartet. They have participated in coachings and master classes with Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Peter Oundjian, Milena Pajaro-Van de Stadt, Jean-Guihen Queyras, and the Arditti, Atrium, Henschel, Jerusalem, Shanghai, and Voce String Quartets.

An active festival participant, Quartet Integra was invited by Günter Pichler (formerly of the Alban Berg Quartet) to attend the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena on a scholarship and have attended festivals such as Crans Montana Classics, Toyama Chamber Music Festival, and Kirishima International Music Festival. They have also been invited as guest artists to the PyeongChang Music Festival and the Takefu International Music Festival.

Committed to contemporary works, Quartet Integra has commissioned many new works from Japanese composers and has given over a dozen world premieres. In June 2025, they also premiered a work by a South Korean composer, Texu Kim, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the “Japan-South Korea Treaty on Basic Relations” in Suntory Hall with pianist Jae Hong Park.

Quartet Integra, consisting of first violinist Kyoka Misawa, second violinist Rintaro Kikuno, violist Itsuki Yamamoto, and cellist Ye Un Park, formed in 2015 and began their studies with Kazuhide Isomura and

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Nobuko Yamazaki at Toho Gakuen School of Music, continuing their academic work as a quartet as fellows at the Suntory Hall Chamber Music Academy. They served as the Chamber Ensemble-in-Residence at the Colburn School in 2022-2025, under the guidance of Martin Beaver, Jonathan Brown, and Clive Greensmith. Currently, Quartet Integra is in residence at ProQuartet – Centre Européen de Musique de Chambre for the season 2025-2027 (<https://www.proquartet.fr/>) and is under the guidance of Oliver Wille at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover.

Short bio

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Quartet Integra has performed in numerous venues throughout the United States, Europe, and Japan, and have collaborated with artists including Augustin Hadelich, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, Alexander Melnikov, Fabio Bidini, Shigeo Neriki, and the Calidore String Quartet.

Consisting of first violinist Kyoka Misawa, second violinist Rintaro Kikuno, violist Itsuki Yamamoto, and cellist Ye Un Park, Quartet Integra formed in 2015 and began their studies with Kazuhide Isomura and Nobuko Yamazaki at the Toho Gakuen School of Music, continuing their academic work as a quartet as fellows at the Suntory Hall Chamber Music Academy. They served as the Chamber Ensemble-in-Residence at the Colburn School in 2022-2025, where they studied with Martin Beaver, Jonathan Brown, and Clive Greensmith. Currently, Quartet Integra is in residence at ProQuartet – Centre Européen de Musique de Chambre for the season 2025-2027 (<https://www.proquartet.fr/>) and is under the guidance of Oliver Wille at the Hochschule für Musik, Theater und Medien Hannover.