

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

Form as Breath

Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)	Three Pieces for String Quartet (1914)
Akira Miyoshi (1933-2013)	String Quartet No.2 (1967)
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Toru Takemitsu (1930-1996)	<i>A Way A Lone</i>
Béla Bartók (1881-1945)	String Quartet No. 6 D-Dur

This program brings together the string quartets of Toru Takemitsu and Akira Miyoshi — two leading Japanese composers of the twentieth century — alongside Stravinsky and Bartók, whose influence can be felt in both. Hearing these works together raises a question: what, in the end, is musical form? At times completely rational, at times purely instinctive, their ways of shaping sound inspired the title Form as Breath.

Dialogues of Genius

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)	String Quartet No. 14 in G major KV 387 <i>Spring Quartet</i>
Péter Eötvös (1944-2024)	<i>Korrespondenz</i> (1992)
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Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847)	String Quartet No. 1 in E flat major, Op. 12

Two young geniuses whose names both begin with M — Mozart and Mendelssohn — stand at the heart of this program with their radiant works. Between them comes Eötvös's *Korrespondenz*, a fascinating piece inspired by the letters exchanged between Mozart and his father.

Who is Schubert's Heir?

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)	String Quartet in C minor, Op. 18 No. 4
Luciano Berio (1925-2003)	<i>Notturmo</i>
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Anton Webern (1883-1945)	Sechs Bagatellen for String Quartet, Op. 9 (1909)
Franz Schubert (1797-1828)	String Quartet No. 14 in D minor D 810 <i>Death and the Maiden</i>

Programmes | 2026/2027

Schubert once sought to be Beethoven's successor — yet who, in turn, inherited Schubert's spirit? Perhaps it was Webern, who seemed to condense Schubert's vast lyricism into a few distilled gestures; or Berio, who once wove fragments of Schubert's unfinished works into his own music. This program traces that invisible lineage, asking how beauty, intimacy, and fragility have been transformed through time.

The Two Faces of Beethoven

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) String Quartet in D major, Op. 18 No. 3

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) String Quartet in C minor, Op. 18 No. 4

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Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) String Quartet in F major, Op. 59 No. 1
Razumovsky-Quartet 1

In this program, we explore the two contrasting sides of Beethoven's musical world. We begin with two quartets from Op.18 — the most serene, No.3, and the darkest and most dramatic, No.4. Each of the six quartets in this set has its own distinct character, but these two perhaps show the greatest contrast. The Razumovsky Quartet No.1, which follows, unites both faces within a single work: the lively brightness of F major and, in its third movement, one of the most sorrowful pages Beethoven ever wrote.