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The magic of four highly talented musicians

*With enormous passion, outstanding playing technique, and enthusiasm for new worlds of sound, the Poiesis Quartet has quickly earned an outstanding reputation on the international chamber music scene since 2023. No tempo is too fast for the Poiesis Quartet. It stays together even in the most complex passages and captivates with its musical flexibility, which opens up a wide range of works in a variety of styles.*

Weinheimer Nachrichten | Jürgen Drawitsch | January 29, 2026

A pioneer with charisma / Poiesis Quartet setzt neue Maßstäbe bei den Kunstfreunden

*The bold Wiesloch program also impressively underscored the special repertoire mission of the brilliant and enthusiastic Poiesis crew with works by Kevin Lau and Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson. The rousing 15-minute piece (Surfacing by K. Lau) has what it takes to be a crowd favorite thanks to its vivid inventiveness and sensual variety of sounds. The sheer symphonic power of this perfectly crafted gem (Calvary by Perkinson) was celebrated with true relish by the Poiesis Quartet. Even in its standard repertoire, the name "Poiesis" stands not only for the highest level of technical skill, but also for a fascinatingly personal art of interpretation.*

RNZ | Klaus Roß | January 29, 2026

Haydn and Brahms in a new guise / Poiesis Quartet aus Ohio im Palatin Wiesloch

*Here (Brahms op. 67), the quartet painted a musical picture of the composer that was far removed from any sedateness or even melancholy. Brahms would certainly have enjoyed how Sarah Ying Min and Max Bell on violins, as well as Jasper de Boer and Drew Dansby on viola and cello, brought out the composer's cheerful and exuberant side behind his cool North German façade. Joseph Haydn's String Quartet in D major, Op. 71 No. 2, performed after the intermission, also did not live up to the expectations commonly associated with the work of the Viennese Classical composer. Even simple themes sparkled with joie de vivre and were performed with virtuosity, perfectly coordinated even at the fastest tempos.*

Wieslocher Woche | Wolfram Theis | January 27, 2026

Best Classical Performances of 2025

*I heard this vibrant young ensemble mid liftoff... its concert included two brilliantly idiomatic quartets by Kevin Lau and a burnished, deeply felt account of [Perkinson's Quartet No. 1,] prefaced by the group's four-violin arrangement of the spiritual that inspired it — a casual, telling glimpse of these players' multifaceted artistry.*

New York Times | Joshua Barone, Corinna da Fonseca-Wollheim | December 9, 2025

**Press reviews | June 2026**

A letter from Banff

*The victory went to the lone North America entry, the Poiesis Quartet, which made a statement in many ways. Openly LGBTQ in orientation, these Cincinnati-based musicians chose their pronouns and dress to party. While some onlookers might wonder whether the seven judges overseen by competition artistic director Barry Shiffman, were influenced by contemporary trends, no one present in the 575-seat Jenny Belzberg Theatre could doubt the purely musical credentials of this remarkable foursome.*

**The Gramophone** | Awards 2025 | Arthur Kaptainis | October, 2025

Poiesis Quartet fearlessly forges something new

*Creating something new can come with a lot of expectations. Founding an ensemble. Releasing a debut album. Recording a world premiere, or two. But whatever you might expect from the Poiesis Quartet, they want you to take them exactly as they are.*

Cleveland Classical | Recording Review | Stephanie Manning | October 10, 2024

Poiesis Quartet's youthful energy abounds

*But what really distinguishes the group is its collective sound, which is remarkable and, one might almost say, old-fashioned — rich from top to bottom in a wonderfully uncompromising way.*

Cleveland Classical | Peter Feher | July 18, 2024

*The Poiesis squad are an unabashedly young, unabashedly passionate, and most comfortingly, unabashedly queer future for a straight-edged quartet world.*

Chamber Music of America Conference | Emery Kerekes | February 01, 2024