



2011-2012 Season

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IVES QUARTET ANNOUNCES 13th SEASON of PENINSULA CONCERTS
Six concerts and three intimate Sunday afternoon salons beginning September 18

Palo Alto, June 21, 2011 – **The Ives Quartet** announces, “**Illuminate,**” its 13th annual series of chamber music concerts. Six performances of three main stage programs will be given in Palo Alto and San Jose at intimate venues that foster a close connection between performers and audience. Three afternoon salon events will be presented at an historical home in Palo Alto.

Superb artistry, performance passion, a spirit of musical adventure, warmth of tone and interpretation and smart programming have been hallmarks of the Ives Quartet’s first decade of music making.

The Ives Quartet comprises Bettina Mussumeli and Susan Freier, Violins; Jodi Levitz, Viola; and Stephen Harrison, Cello. The Quartet’s musicians enjoy dual careers in the US and Europe, making Ives Quartet concerts an inviting combination of old-world sophistication and a uniquely pioneering American panache that audiences and critics find irresistible.

“Excellence and access are central to all we do. Our concerts feature lively spoken introductions and post-concert opportunities to meet the musicians.” IQ

Internationally renowned pianist, **Gwendolyn Mok** rejoins IQ, bringing her 19th-c. Erard piano, to play **Brahms’ Piano Quintet in F-sharp Minor, Op. 34** the way he may have imagined it.

Guest artists **Anna Kruger, viola**, and **Tanya Tomkins, cello**, return this season to perform **Tchaikovsky’s** dynamic, romantic **String Sextet in D Minor, Op. 70**, “**Souvenir of Florence.**”

Featured composers include **Brahms, Haydn, Schuloff, Mozart, Porter, Tchaikovsky, Debussy** and a new work by Bay Area native **Deborah Lurie** created specially for IQ.

“Illuminate”

FALL: 8PM Friday, September 30: St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Palo Alto
7PM Sunday, October 9: Le Petit Trianon, San Jose

Haydn String Quartet in E-flat Major, Op. 50, No. 3

Continuing the exploration of Haydn’s Op. 50 quartets, IQ opens the season with the third in the stunning set of six. Full of delightful surprises and clever techniques, they became nicknamed “Prussian” from Haydn’s calculated dedication to the music-loving King.

Schulhoff String Quartet No. 1

The Czech prodigy Erwin Schulhoff was a brilliant pianist and avant-garde composer, whose politics were even more radical than his music. This quartet, and most of his chamber music, comes from the 1920s, before he became a Communist, Soviet citizen, and tragic Holocaust victim.

Brahms Piano Quintet in F-sharp Minor, Op. 34

Imagine hearing this beloved work performed on an instrument like Brahms used while composing it! Gwendolyn Mok rejoins IQ, bringing her 19th-c. Erard piano, to play Brahms the way he may have imagined it.

WINTER: 8PM Friday, February 10: St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Palo Alto
7PM Sunday, February 12: Le Petit Trianon, San Jose

Haydn String Quartet in F-sharp Minor, Op. 50. No. 4

Haydn knew his market! Quartets were usually published in a set of six with one in minor mode. No .4 is it in Op. 50, though the interplay with major mode is a distinctive, expressive feature.

Porter String Quartet No. 6

Quincy Porter’s nine quartets, spanning 1923-58, are the most substantial contribution to the genre by any American composer. IQ is their champion, performing and recording them all on the Naxos label. Nos. 1-4 have been released and the others are coming soon.

Tchaikovsky String Sextet in D Minor, Op. 70, “Souvenir of Florence”

Anna Kruger, viola, and Tanya Tomkins, cello, return this season for Tchaikovsky’s dynamic, romantic sextet. One of the many lush melodies was conceived in Florence – the souvenir.

SPRING: 3PM Sunday, April 29: First Congregational Church, Palo Alto
7PM Sunday, May 6: Le Petit Trianon, San Jose

Mozart String Quartet in D Major, K. 575

Hoping for the same favor Haydn had in dedicating Op. 50 to the King of Prussia, Mozart set out to compose a set for him, and this is the first of three he completed. The cello part is particularly prominent since the King was a fine amateur cellist.

Subscriptions and Single Tickets are now on sale.

3 Concert Subscription package:

General: \$60
Senior, 65+: \$45
Student, (13-24 with ID): \$30

Single tickets:

General: \$25
Senior, 65+: \$20
Student: (13-24 with ID) \$15
Children 12 and under free.

Salon series:

Single tickets:

With subscription package: \$30/ticket
Without subscription: \$40/ticket

Purchase Tickets: Ives Quartet, P.O. Box 60464, Palo Alto, CA 94306

Phone: (650) 224-7849

Web: <http://www.ivesquartet.org>

Seating is by **general admission**. Box Office opens one hour before concerts.

Parking is convenient and free. All concert venues are **wheelchair accessible**.

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