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PREVIEW  
NOTES

**Daedalus Quartet w/ Alexander Fiterstein, clarinet**  
**Friday, February 18 • 8:00 PM — *American Philosophical Society***

**Background**

The Daedalus Quartet was founded in the summer of 2000, and one year later captured the Grand Prize of the 2001 Banff International String Quartet Competition, quickly establishing itself as among America's outstanding string quartets. The group consists of violinists Min-Young Kim and Ara Gregorian; cellist Raman Ramakrishnan; and violist Jessica Thompson, and it takes its name from the mythical Greek inventor, artist, and architect. Winner of a 2009 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Alexander Fiterstein is one of the world's exceptional young clarinet players. Born in Belarus, at the age of two he immigrated with his family to Israel, where he later studied at the Israel Arts and Science Academy.

**Program**

**Quartet in F Major, K. 590**

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

*Born: Jan. 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria*

*Died: Dec. 5, 1791 in Vienna, Austria*

*Composed: 1790*

*Last PCMS performance: Johannes Quartet in 2009*

*Duration: 27 minutes*

Mozart's final string quartet was to have been the third of six the composer intended to dedicate to the cello-playing monarch King Frederick William II of Prussia. An advertisement for these "Prussian" quartets describes them as "concertante quartets," thus paying due recognition to the prominence of their cello parts, which were obviously designed in deference to the king.

**Quartet No. 8**

**Richard Wernick**

*Born: Jan. 16, 1934 in Boston, MA*

*Composed: 2010*

*Last PCMS performance: Philadelphia premiere*

*Duration: 15 minutes*

Pulitzer Prize winner Richard Wernick taught for decades at the University of Pennsylvania. PCMS has premiered many of his works, most recently *Songs of Joy and Blessing* in 2009.

**Clarinet Quintet in A Major, K. 581**

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

*Composed: 1789*

*Last PCMS performance: Juilliard Quartet*

*w/ Ricardo Morales in 2008*

*Duration: 32 minutes*

Composed for the outstanding clarinetist Anton Stadler, this quintet—one of Mozart's most popular works—was written around the same time that Mozart was working on *Così fan tutte*. It basks in the same warmth and mellowness that characterizes much of that opera, and a sketch for its finale became "Ah lo veggio," one of Ferrando's arias from Act Two.