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PREVIEW  
NOTES

**Musicians from Marlboro I**  
**Tuesday, November 8 – 8:00 PM**  
*American Philosophical Society*

**Background**

The Musicians from Marlboro touring program was created as an extension of the world-renowned Marlboro Music Festival. Called "a virtual guarantee of musical excellence" (*Washington Post*), the season's first of three Marlboro concerts features **Tim Fain**, violin; **Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu**, violin; **Michael Tree**, viola; **Kyle Armbrust**, viola; and **Peter Myers**, cello in a program of works by Mozart, Bridge and Mendelssohn.

**Program**

**String Quintet in C Minor, K. 406**

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

*Born: January 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria*

*Died: December 5, 1791 in Vienna, Austria*

*Composed: 1787*

*Last PCMS performance: PCMS Players in 2004*

*Duration: 24 minutes*

This work is a transcription for string quintet of Mozart's earlier Serenade for Winds in C Minor. Imbued with an intensity that belies its purpose of social entertainment, the Serenade features a driving intensity fueled by chromaticism and irregular phrase structures that make it a more personal work than most of Mozart's occasional pieces. Thus, Mozart's transference of the piece to the more "serious" chamber music idiom of the string quintet seems quite natural. Unlike the transcription of the B flat Major Serenade, that of the C Minor Serenade is generally ranked with the original string quintets.

**String Quartet in E Minor**

**Frank Bridge**

*Born: February 26, 1879 in Brighton, England*

*Died: January 10, 1941 in Eastbourne, England*

*Composed: 1906*

*Last PCMS performance: Guarneri Quartet in 2005*

*Duration: 30 minutes*

All four string quartets that Frank Bridge produced are well regarded and closely trace his development as a composer. The first is a dark, late-romantic work but not

written in the pastoral style associated with the quartets of his contemporaries such as Howells, Delius and Vaughan Williams. The swiftly composed first string quartet is titled the "Bologna" owing to its entry into a Bologna music competition. It is a darkly emotional work infused with yearning and mystery with an undercurrent of melancholy. This agitated quartet does not sound like the work of a happy and contented man, and there is a sense that something important was concerning the composer at the time.

**String Quintet in B-flat Major, Op. 87**

**Felix Mendelssohn**

*Born: February 3, 1809 in Hamburg, Germany*

*Died: November 4, 1847 in Leipzig, Germany*

*Composed: 1845*

*Last PCMS performance:*

*Brentano Quartet w/ Hsin-Yun Huang in 2009*

*Duration: 28 minutes*

Often compared to the composer's extraordinary Octet, Mendelssohn's second string quintet indeed shares many characteristics with the earlier work, though the two are separated by nearly two decades. As in the Octet, the first movement of the quintet opens with a rising triadic theme. Likewise, much of the emotional content of this movement is disarmingly exuberant.