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PREVIEW  
NOTES

**Orion Quartet w/ John Dalley, viola and Peter Wiley, cello**  
**Wednesday, April 27 • 8:00 PM — Perelman Theater**  
*Part of the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts*

**Background**

Since its inception, the Orion Quartet has been consistently praised for the fresh perspective and individuality it brings to performances, offering diverse programs that juxtapose classic works of the standard quartet literature with masterworks by living composers. The group serves as Quartet-in-Residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and New York's Mannes College of Music and is the Resident Quartet at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. Guest artists John Dalley, viola and Peter Wiley, cello performed together for many years in the Guarneri Quartet.

**Program**

**Concertino for Quartet**

**Igor Stravinsky**

*Born: Jun. 17, 1882 in Orianenbaum, Russia*

*Died: Apr. 6, 1971 in New York, NY*

*Composed: 1920*

*Last PCMS performance: Artemis Quartet in 2008*

*Duration: 7 minutes*

One of only three works for string quartet in Stravinsky's entire oeuvre, the Concertino is, in the composer's words, "a piece in one single movement, treated in the form of a free sonata allegro with a definitely concertante part for the first violin."

**Sextet for Strings**

**Erwin Schulhoff**

*Born: Jun. 8, 1894 in Prague, Czechoslovakia*

*Died: Aug. 18, 1942 in Wurzburg, Germany*

*Composed: 1924*

*Last PCMS performance: Musicians from Marlboro in '01*

*Duration: 23 minutes*

Paul Hindemith was one of the sextet members in this work's 1924 premiere performance. From its expressionist first movement onwards, it is a muscular and resolute but never predictable piece. With two slow movements, it exudes a certain post-war cynicism, although the score's highlight, the second movement *Andante*, comes off as extremely expressive and often dreamy.

**3 Pieces for Quartet**

**Igor Stravinsky**

*Composed: 1914*

*Last PCMS performance: Daedalus Quartet in 2009*

*Duration: 7 minutes*

Stravinsky intended these pieces as studies in "popular, fantastic, and liturgical moods." The music is difficult to play, as Stravinsky's score calls for some extreme effects from the players; the rhythmic vivacity and a certain disjunction add a further element of challenge.

**Quartet No. 4**

**Bela Bartók**

*Born: Mar. 25, 1881 in Nagyszentmiklós, Hungary*

*Died: Sept. 26, 1945 in New York, NY*

*Composed: 1928*

*Last PCMS performance: Johannes Quartet in 2008*

*Duration: 23 minutes*

While the radically dissonant harmonic language and rigorous motivic development found in Bartók's third string quartet are intensified in the fourth, the third's tightly interwoven single-movement structure is in the fourth "opened out" into a more easily comprehended, five-movement span arranged in Bartók's characteristic "arch" form.