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PREVIEW
NOTES

Ying Quartet

Friday, May 13 • 8:00 PM — *Independence Seaport Museum*

Background

Now in its second decade as a quartet, the Ying Quartet has established itself as an ensemble of the highest musical qualifications in its tours across the United States and abroad. Their performances regularly take place in the world's most important concert halls, from Carnegie Hall to the Sydney Opera House. This season versatile violinist Ayano Ninomiya joined the quartet as first violinist, filling the chair of Frank Huang (09-10) and Timothy Ying, the original first violinist of the all-sibling quartet.

Program

Quartet in D Major, Op. 76, No. 5

Franz Joseph Haydn

Born: Mar. 31, 1732, in Rohrau, Austria

Died: May 31, 1809, in Vienna, Austria

Composed: 1797

Last PCMS performance: New Zealand Quartet in 2005

Duration: 20 minutes

“Largo”—the fifth of the six Op. 76 quartets—is an entirely original work for a composer in his sixties. It boasts a wholly unique opening movement, an eternally hilarious finale, and perhaps the deepest and most personal of all Haydn's slow movements for string quartets.

Quartet No. 1

Robert Capanna

Born: 1952 in Camden, NJ

Composed: 1996

Last PCMS performance: Colorado Quartet in 1996

Duration: 8 minutes

Robert Capanna is former executive director of the Settlement Music School. This, his first string quartet, was commissioned by PCMS and premiered by the Colorado Quartet at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in 1996. It is one of six Capanna compositions that have had their world premieres on PCMS programs.

Quartet in F Minor, Op. 80

Felix Mendelssohn

Born: Feb. 3, 1809 in Hamburg, Germany

Died: Nov. 4, 1847 in Leipzig, Germany

Composed: 1847

Last PCMS performance: Emerson Quartet in 2009

Duration: 26 minutes

Mendelssohn's last completed Quartet, the Quartet in F Minor was written in the composer's last year following the death of his sister Fanny. Overflowing with turbulent emotion, it is a rare work of visceral intensity from a famously reserved artist.