

PHILADELPHIA CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

a life more beautiful

Aizuri Quartet

Sunday, February 12 – 3 PM

Perelman Theater, Kimmel Center

**PREVIEW
NOTES**

PROGRAM

Sunrise

Expressing the many facets of night, the music of *Sunrise* traces a journey from darkness into dawn. The first three pieces on the program explore different ways of experiencing the night. Arranged for the Aizuri Quartet, Clara Schumann's lyrical art song *Ich stand in dunkeln Träumen*, written following a period of separation from her husband, encapsulates both the reverie and the psychological turbulence that night has the uncanny ability to prompt. At the fulcrum of Bartók's energetic and profoundly impactful String Quartet No. 4 is a searching and evocative slow movement in his self-described "night music" style, which captures the atmosphere, textures and sounds of nocturnal nature. Bartók draws us out of this world with a jaunty pizzicato fourth movement, and the quartet culminates in an explosive, earthy finale. The second half of the program opens with the Canadian Inuk vocalist and multi-disciplinary artist Tanya Tagaq's *Sivunittinni*. Drawing from her style of Inuit throat singing, she describes her string quartet as a piece of the land, and perhaps "a little bit of a wake-up" from humankind's disconnect from nature. And finally, welcoming us into the light of dawn are the gorgeous opening chords and ascending melodic lines of Haydn's warm and jovial Sunrise Quartet. —*Karen Ouzounian*