

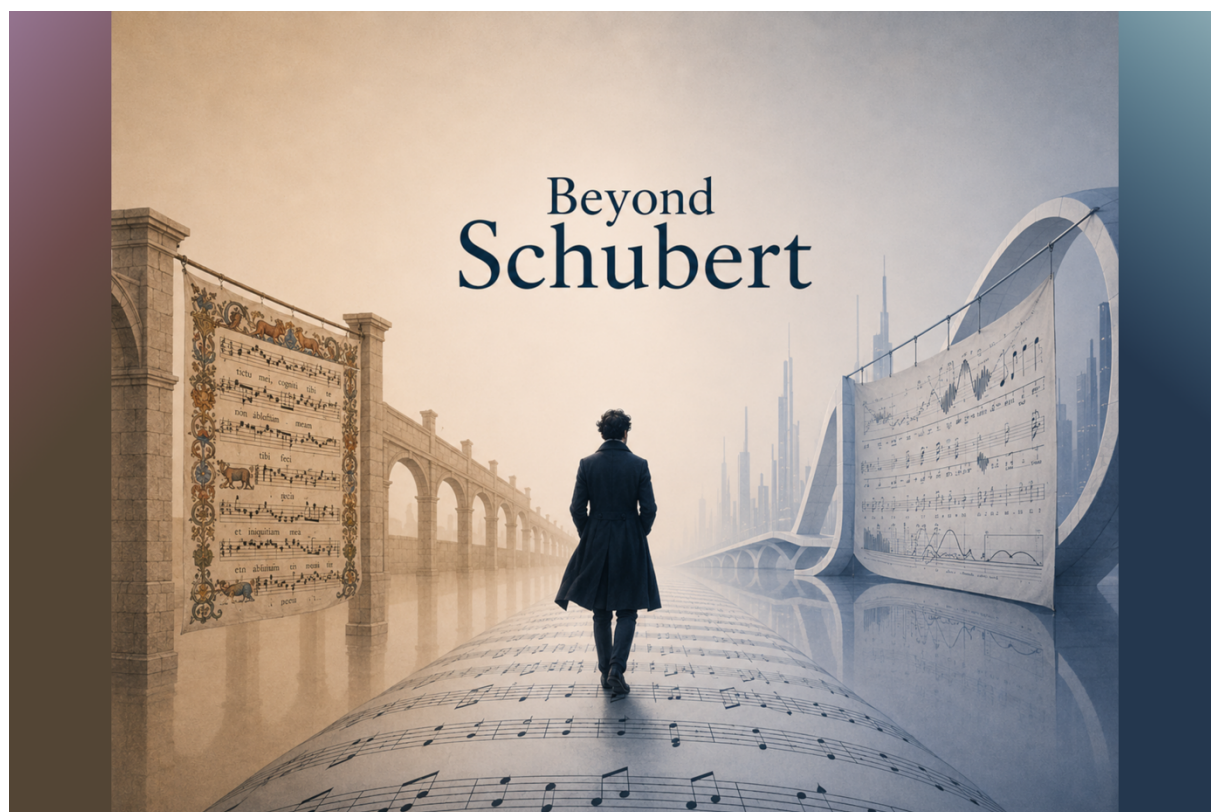
delian::quartett

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delian::quartett



Quite true. The **delian::quartett**'s portrait of Schubert, together with the pianist Alessandro Deljavan, is rooted in tradition. It does not reinvent the wheel. It is not a reckless, boyish stunt. And yet: it is a genuine Delian project with the quartet's distinctive style. In a very personal way, it sheds new light on Schubert's work. Join us in making time stand still.

Exciting in both form and content, the **delian::quartett**, together with pianist Alessandro Deljavan, offers a thoughtful and eye-opening insight into the works of Franz Schubert.

The first half of the concert is the ensemble's personal "Schubertiade". In it, they juxtapose one of the rarely performed early string quartets by the brilliant composer with two of his late piano pieces. This echo of an artist's life blends ancient and brand-new music. The result is as overwhelming as it is astonishing: these works, so far removed from one another, sound like siblings in conversation, without the slightest break, as if composers from three centuries had written for one another...

The evening opens with the crowning glory of a bygone era: the final, unfinished Fuga a 3 Soggetti from Bach's "The Art of Fugue". After the introduction of the third theme based on the sequence B-A-C-H, Bach's music comes to a sudden stop, and Schubert's Fourth String Quartet takes over with its sombre-toned introduction – itself a fugue. Only when that opens up and the Allegro con moto of the first movement begins does the listener realise that they have long since left the paths of the Baroque behind.

Schubert's string quartet flows seamlessly into the next piano piece. The effervescent atmosphere of the strings' final Allegro is echoed in Philip Glass's Étude No. 13 for piano, written in a new musical language, before we return organically to Schubert. Schubert's Impromptu, Op. 90 No. 4, brings the first part of the concert to a close with sparkling garlands.

The second half of the concert brings together the protagonists from the first part in one of the greatest piano quintets in the musical repertoire – symphonic dimensions heard up close.

::programme

Bach Fuga a 3 Soggetti from "The Art of Fugue" BWV 1080, version for
String Quartet

Schubert String Quartet No. 4 in C Major D. 46

Glass Étude No. 13 for Piano

Schubert Allegretto in c Minor D 915 for Piano

Impromptu in A flat Major op. 90 No. 4 D. 899 for Piano

Brahms Piano Quintet in f Minor op. 34

delian::quartett

Adrian Pinzaru | violin

Andreas Moscho | violin

Lara Albesano | viola

Hendrik Blumenroth | violoncello

Alessandro Deljavan | piano

Alessandro Deljavan

"Deljavan's performance was revelatory in every respect. Everyone in the hall knew that they were hearing something special — something wonderful — from the very first notes. At the end, the spontaneous eruption of cheers was so different from the perfunctory ovation that any decent performance is awarded, that being a part of the thrilled crowd was a unique experience in itself."

(Gregory Sullivan Isaacs, Theater Jones)



© Jean-Baptiste Millot

Italian pianist Alessandro Deljavan has been astonishing audiences for more than two decades. He is equally esteemed by audiences and fellow artists alike for his remarkable skill and emotional intensity.

The son of an Italian mother and a Persian father, Alessandro Deljavan began learning the piano at the age of two; he gave his first concerts at the age of three. His performances have long taken him around the world. He has been a celebrated guest in, among other countries, Austria, Belgium, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Montenegro, South Korea, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.

At the age of just nine, Alessandro Deljavan won the prestigious Concours musical de France in Paris (1st Prize, 1996). He subsequently was awarded top prizes at numerous other international competitions, including the Hummel Competition in Bratislava (2nd Prize, 2005), the Gina Bachauer Young Artist Competition (5th Prize, 2005), the Cliburn Competition (John Giordano Discretionary Award, 2009), the Isang Yun Competition in Tongyeong, South Korea (2nd Prize, 2010), and the Cliburn Competition (Raymond E. Buck Discretionary Award, 2013).

As a soloist, Alessandro Deljavan has performed with orchestras including the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra (St. Petersburg, Russia), the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra (Texas, USA), the Orchestra Sinfonica di Milano Giuseppe Verdi (Italy), the Orchestra Sinfonica Leopoldi (Atri, Italy), the Orchestra Haydn di Bolzano e Trento (on tour through Italy and Slovakia), the

Israel Camerata Orchestra (Tel Aviv, Israel), the Wu Han Philharmonic Orchestra (China), and the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra (Vilnius, Lithuania).

Alessandro Deljavan has appeared at festivals such as the Festival International Piano Classique de Biarritz, the Festival Chopin à Paris, and the Piano Intime Series in France, the Glafsfordens musikfestival in Sweden, the Bologna Festival, the Festival Piano Master, the Franz Liszt Festival, the Festival Città di Morbegno, the Festival Internazionale di Lapedona, the Autunno Musicale, and the Orta Festival in Italy, the Gradus International Piano Festival in Denmark, the Bogotá International Piano Festival in Colombia, and Tippet Rise in the USA.

His chamber music partners include the Takács Quartet, the Quatuor Sine Nomine, and the Brentano Quartet, violinist Alissa Margulis, and cellist Alexander Buzlov. He has undertaken numerous tours with violinist Daniela Cammarano, with whom he has also released several recordings.

Alessandro Deljavan is a prolific recording artist. His discography comprises more than 60 albums on the labels Stradivarius, Brilliant Classics, Onclassical, Aevea, Naxos, Tactus, and Piano Classics, spanning works from every era. His recording of Grieg's Lyric Pieces was streamed more than 200,000 times on Spotify within the first month of its release. In 2021, Alessandro Deljavan founded his own label, AERAS Music Group, through which he has released Bach's Goldberg Variations and an album of works by Franz Liszt. Forthcoming releases include albums of Beethoven's Sonatas for Piano and Violin, Mozart's Piano Sonatas, and works by Schubert.

Alessandro Deljavan has appeared in films such as "Franz Liszt: The Pilgrimage Years" (RAI – Italian Television), "Virtuosity" (Cliburn / PBS), and in numerous live broadcasts of his concerts on European radio. The live webcasts of the 2009 and 2013 Cliburn Competitions were viewed by more than one million viewers in 155 countries. In 2018, Alessandro Deljavan's Spotify Artist Report recorded 957,000 fans and more than 4,000,000 streams.

In 2026, Alessandro Deljavan was appointed Professor at the Hochschule für Musik Detmold.

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"Original and brimming with esprit, dramaturgically daring and thrilling in its content: even longtime regulars of the concert series will find little in their memories to match an evening in which all these qualities were woven together as artfully and convincingly as in the performance of the Delian Quartet. [...] If proof were ever

needed of the ensemble's extraordinary class — in these breathless seconds it flared up with the force of a supernova. [...] Thanks for opening a new door into the world of music." (Süddeutsche Zeitung)



© Mathias Bothor

The **delian::quartett**'s namesake is the Greek god Apollo, worshipped as the god of the fine arts and of the Muses — especially of music — and also called "Delian" after his birthplace, the island of Delos.

Since its founding in 2007, the **delian::quartett** has given performances acclaimed equally by audiences and press throughout Europe, in China, and — as a cultural ambassador of the Goethe-Institut — as far afield as Africa. Its 2009 debut at the Berlin Philharmonie was met with a standing ovation already after the opening piece. Since then, the ensemble has been a celebrated guest in venues such as the Konzerthaus Berlin, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Prinzregententheater Munich, Unione Musicale Turin, Konzerthaus and Musikverein Vienna, Tonhalle Zurich, Beethovenfest Bonn, Kissinger Sommer, Ludwigsburg Schlossfestspiele, südtirol festival meran, Rheingau Musik Festival, Salzburg Festival, Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Schubertiade Roskilde, and many more. Its unconventional and richly allusive programming has long made the **delian::quartett**'s concert projects distinctive and a hallmark of the ensemble.

The quartet maintains an active collaboration with broadcasters such as SWR, HR, WDR, Catalunya Música, Radio France, Danmarks Radio, BR, NDR, SR, ORF, and Deutschlandfunk. The ensemble's CD recordings for the label OehmsClassics reached top positions on the classical charts, were presented as the editor's choice by various broadcasters, and were chosen multiple times for Lufthansa's Album Selection. Its second CD, featuring the music of Joseph Haydn, received an ECHO Klassik award nomination in 2010. The acclaimed performance of Chausson's Concerto for Violin, Piano, and String Quartet, Op. 21, with the **delian::quartett**, Liza Ferschtman, and Benjamin Moser, was included as a live recording in the anniversary

edition of the Piano Festival Ruhr in 2018. The same year saw the release of the double CD "Cantai", featuring Bach's "The Art of Fugue" alongside Stefano Pierini's work "Cantai un tempo...", written for the **delian::quartett**. That recording received, among other honors, the maximum five stars from the Italian magazine ARCHI and a nomination for the OPUS KLASSIK 2019.

A major commitment of the **delian::quartett** is the expansion of the repertoire. It has given world premieres of works by living composers Alberto Colla, Per Arne Glorvigen, Gabriel Iranyi, Christian Jost, Stefano Pierini, and Uljas Pulkkis; most of these compositions are inscribed to it. In 2019, Aribert Reimann dedicated his last completed work – his adaptation of Schumann's song cycle "Frauenliebe und Leben" (A Woman's Love and Life) – to the **delian::quartett** and soprano Claudia Barainsky, who premiered it together at the Berlin Philharmonie. In 2024, the legendary label ECM Records released the album "Im wachen Traume", featuring, among other things, the world premiere recording of this work. Described as an *"original recording of rare beauty"* (nikonland.it), "Im wachen Traume" has been a classical music recommendation, must-listen, Choix Musical, or Sélection Disques for various European broadcasters and print media, and was included on the longlist for the German Record Critics' Award (Deutscher Schallplattenpreis). In the Süddeutsche Zeitung, critic Wolfgang Schreiber named the album the most beautiful CD of the summer, and the magazine Fono Forum awarded it the coveted "Star of the Month", with maximum ratings in every category.

With "Let's Get Classical!", the Delian format for young people and the young at heart, the ensemble also wins over concert newcomers to classical music. The **delian::quartett** has regularly performed and continues to perform alongside artists and ensembles including Gilles Apap, Fabio Bidini, Measha Brueggergosman, Gérard Caussé, the Deutsche Kammerakademie Neuss, Stella Doufexis, Andreas Frölich, Pavel Gililov, Bernd Glemser, Per Arne Glorvigen, Jens Harzer, the Henschel Quartet, Julia Hülsmann, Ralph Manno, Sergei Nakariakov, Ulrich Noethen, PiedraMudaLAB, Menahem Pressler, Dora Schwarzberg, Peter Shub, Peter Simonischek, Ulrich Tukur, Anatol Ugorski, and Angela Winkler. With the great actor Bruno Ganz, the Delians shared ten years of their artistic career until his death in 2019, in various acclaimed spoken-word reading projects.

Since 2017, the members of the **delian::quartett** have been united as Pirastro Artists in a partnership with the renowned string manufacturer. Adrian Pinzaru plays a violin by Giovanni Battista Rogeri, 1699, generously passed on by Christine Anderson; Andreas Moscho's violin is the Giovanni Battista Rogeri "Christmas", circa 1690. Lara Albesano's viola by Alfonso Della Corte, 1884, is on permanent private loan.