

delian::quartett

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What an undertaking: Rainer Maria Rilke's only novel serves as the backdrop for a literary concert format of poignant beauty and poetic truth...

A dramaturgical highlight that stands on its own – let yourself be beguiled by the **delian::quartett** alongside Iffland Ring recipient Jens Harzer.

Rilke. To feel how the birds fly is inspired by Rainer Maria Rilke's "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge". In it, the great poet captures in poetic, deeply felt language what concerns each and every one of us: the search for happiness and meaning, and the reckoning with fate and destiny, fear and redemption, loneliness and solace, with death and God, despair, forgiveness, and love. With life itself.

Thanks to the episodic diary form of Rilke's "prose book", the **delian::quartett** was able, in this project too, to take the music as its conceptual starting point: the individual texts fit into the landscapes that the format's musical works unfold. This gives the word-mosaic a dramaturgical cohesion and a distinctive character all its own.

What unfolds in the first part of the concert is shaped by Shostakovich's darkly torn Seventh String Quartet, dedicated to the memory of his deceased first wife. Barber's famous Adagio — one of the most moving works in music history — grants it a quiet ending. And in the second half, Beethoven's furious Op. 95 serves as a powerful catalyst for Rilke's inner worlds.

::programme

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Shostakovich String Quartet No. 7 in f sharp Minor op. 108: i. Allegretto

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Shostakovich String Quartet No. 7 in f sharp Minor op. 108: ii. Lento

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Shostakovich String Quartet No. 7 in f sharp Minor op. 108: iii. Allegro – Allegretto

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Barber Molto Adagio from String Quartet op. 11

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Beethoven String Quartet No. 11 in f Minor op. 95 "Serioso": i. Allegro con brio

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Beethoven String Quartet No. 11 in f Minor op. 95 "Serioso": ii. Allegretto ma non troppo

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Beethoven String Quartet No. 11 in f Minor op. 95 "Serioso": iii. Allegro assai vivace ma serioso

Rilke *from "The Notebooks of Malte Laurids Brigge"*

Beethoven String Quartet No. 11 in f Minor op. 95 "Serioso": iv. Larghetto espressivo.
Allegretto agitato

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Adrian Pinzaru | violin

Andreas Moscho | violin

Lara Albesano | viola

Hendrik Blumenroth | violoncello

Jens Harzer | reading

(for venues in German-speaking regions)

Jens Harzer

Jens Harzer, born in 1972 in Wiesbaden, trained as an actor at the Otto Falckenberg School in Munich. From 1993 he belonged for 16 years to Dieter Dorn's ensemble, first at the Münchner Kammerspiele, then at the Bayerisches Staatsschauspiel München. Alongside this, he made guest appearances at the Schau-



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bühne Berlin, the Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg, the Schauspiel Frankfurt, the Salzburg Festival, the RuhrTriennale, the Deutsches Theater Berlin, and the Burgtheater Vienna. During these years, besides Dieter Dorn, he worked above all with Peter Zadek, Andrea Breth, Herbert Achternbusch, Luc Bondy, and Jürgen Gosch.

In 2009 Jens Harzer moved to the Thalia Theater Hamburg. There he appeared, among others, in productions by Dimiter Gotscheff, Stefan Pucher, Luk Perceval, and Leander Haußmann. Since 2015 he has maintained a close artistic collaboration with Johan Simons, at whose Bochum Schauspielhaus he has also been engaged since 2018. In autumn 2025 he moved to the Berliner Ensemble.

In film, Jens Harzer has worked with directors such as Michael Verhoeven, Hans-Christian Schmid, Bülent Akinci, and most recently Tom Tykwer, Wim Wenders, and Hermine Huntgeburth. He could be seen, for example, in "Ruhe! Hier stirbt Lothar" and "Hallo Spencer – Der Film", or on television in three Tatort films, in the final episode of "Der Tatortreiniger", as well as in "Babylon Berlin".

For his work, Jens Harzer has received numerous national and international awards, including the Bavarian Art Promotion Prize and the Berlin Art Prize in 1996, the Kurt Meisel Prize in 2003, the Silver St. George of the Moscow International Film Festival in 2006, the Rolf Mares Prize in 2015, the Hessian Television Prize in 2017 and 2021, and the Prize of the German Television Academy in 2021. "Theater heute" named him Actor of the Year in 2008 and 2011.

In 2019, Jens Harzer received the Iffland Ring, passed on to him by testamentary succession from Bruno Ganz. For over 100 years, this ring has been awarded for life to the "most significant and worthy stage artist of German-language theatre".

Since 2013, Jens Harzer has been a member of the Akademie der Künste Berlin and a member of the Freie Akademie der Künste in Hamburg.

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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)



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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.