

delian::quartett

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Are you a devotee of refined tedium? Do you relish stiff formality and clothes cut just a size too small? Do you simply want to be left alone — and does an accidental smile always leave you with that odd twitch in the eye? Then you'd best turn the page, quickly.

Everyone else is in for a treat with the **delian::quartett**'s wonderfully unconventional, thoroughly entertaining hosted format.

After concerts featuring the **delian::quartett**'s brief spoken interludes — and especially after their children's concerts — audiences and promoters kept urging the ensemble to create a "fully official" presented programme. With ***A Dance Through Time***, the Delians answer that call.

Their meticulously researched project unfolds in two halves, each with its own personality. The first opens the evening with dance pieces spanning the whole of music history, staged as an amusing, engagingly hosted revue of around fifty minutes. The audience is drawn right into the fun. We recommend not printing the full sequence of dances in the programme — the surprise around every corner is half the pleasure.

This is set against the shorter, seemingly "more serious" second half of the evening. Once again, centuries collapse in an instant — this time spanning the distance from the Renaissance to the twentieth century. Byrd's "Sing joyfully", a bright, sparkling "overture", is followed, astonishingly seamlessly and strikingly cinematically, by Korngold's brilliant Second String Quartet. Within it lies an entire world, from wry, knowing wit to Viennese melancholy, and the final movement is — a waltz...

Alternatively, the second half of the concert can be tailored to your preferences through a selection of works, either highlighted or downplayed. Please feel welcome to ask us about it.

::programme

Purcell	Pavane in g Minor for String Quartet
Bach	Air from Suite No. 3 in D Major BWV 1068, arr. for String Quartet
Haydn	Menuetto from String Quartet in C Major op. 76 No. 3 Hob. III: 77 "Emperor"
Shostakovich	Dinner Music from "Hamlet" op. 32
Shostakovich	Sarabande from "The Human Comedy" op. 37
Schnittke	Polka
Gardel	"Por una Cabeza", arr. for String Quartet
Weill	Berlin im Licht, arr. for String Quartet by Andrea Damiano Cotti
Balakrishnan	Skylife

Byrd	"Sing joyfully" from Cathedral Music, Volume 2, p. 34, arr. for String Quartet by Stefano Pierini
Korngold	String Quartet No. 2 in E flat Major op. 26

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Adrian Pinzaru | violin
Andreas Moscho | violin
Lara Albesano | viola
Hendrik Blumenroth | violoncello

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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 Chaussou'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.