



Albion Quartet

String Quartet



A shared belief in the visceral, communicative power of the string quartet has brought together four outstanding performers of their generation to form the Albion Quartet.

With a wealth of prior experience in some of the UK's foremost ensembles between them (including the Badke and Navarra Quartets, and the London Bridge Trio), they have enjoyed numerous competition successes between them, including first prize winners of the Melbourne and Florence International Chamber Music Competitions, and awards from the Lionel Tertis International Viola Competition, Borletti-Buitoni Trust and ECHO Rising Stars.

The members regularly perform in halls across the globe including Philharmonie Paris, Konzerthaus Berlin, Slovak Philharmonic, Musikverein Vienna and Carnegie Hall. Following years of close collaboration, the members are delighted to further their reputation for creative and imaginative performances in this exciting new venture.

Forthcoming engagements include recitals at Wigmore Hall, Concertgebouw Amsterdam and the Aldeburgh Festival, as well as a residency at London's King's Place in the 2017/18 season. They are currently Quartet-in-Residence at Gresham's School, opening Gresham's new Britten Concert Hall in 2017. In 2017 they also embark on their first season as co-artistic directors of the Sainte-Mère Festival, France, and return to the Honeymead Festival as the resident ensemble.

A thirst to explore the string quartet repertoire through innovative programming is quickly becoming the quartet's benchmark. The ensemble's creative curiosity has led them to curate concerts focused around specific themes and presenting lesser-known works alongside core quartet repertoire - a characteristic that is manifested in their King's Place programmes. Through the themes of Mentors, War, Folk and Hymn, the quartet will explore the music of a great variety of composers ranging from Haydn, Schubert, Ravel, Dvorak, as well as Britten and Ades. Every programme will go on a musical voyage linking each one of these themes to British and European music throughout different periods in time.

The Albion Quartet feels a particular affinity for the chamber music of Antonin Dvorak. Whilst the 'American' quartet is a much-loved part of the quartet canon, the majority of Dvorak's quartets (he wrote fourteen in total) are rarely performed. Following on from their residency at Snape Maltings in 2018, their debut recordings of Dvorak's quartets will be released in 2018, the first in a series of discs for Signum Records.

They play a stunning quartet of instruments, including a Stradivarius and Guarnerius.