



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024 | 7:30 PM

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, MacLaurin Building
University of Victoria

GUEST CONCERT

VIANO QUARTET

Hao Zhou, violin

Lucy Wang, violin

Aiden Kane, viola

Tate Zawadiuk, cello

PROGRAM

We acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Introduzione al Angel

Astor Piazzolla (1921–1992)
(arr. Eckart Runge)

Five Folksongs in Counterpoint

I. Calvary. Adagio vigoroso

II. Clementine. Tempo moderato

III. Drink to me only with Thine eyes. Andante cantabile

IV. Shortnin' Bread. Allegro

V. Swing Low, Sweet Chariot. Andantino

Florence Price
(1887–1953)

String Quartet No. 3 “Leaves of an Unwritten Diary”

Krzysztof Penderecki
(1933–2020)

INTERMISSION

String Quartet No. 8 in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2

Allegro

Molto Adagio. Si tratta questo pezzo con molto di sentimento

Allegretto – Maggiore, Thème russe.

Finale. Presto

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770–1827)

This concert is made possible by the generous support of volunteers and the B.K. Weigel Fund.

BIOGRAPHY

Praised for their “virtuosity, visceral expression, and rare unity of intention” (Boston Globe), the Viano Quartet is one of the most sought-after performing young ensembles today and currently in-residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Bowers Program from 2024-2027. Since winning First Prize at the 2019 Banff International String Quartet Competition, they have traveled to nearly every major city across the globe, captivating audiences in New York, London, Berlin, Vancouver, Paris, Beijing, Toronto, Lucerne, and Los Angeles.

In the past three years, the quartet organized a residency at the Meadows School of the Arts at Southern Methodist University, where their focus was to coach young chamber groups and host presentations and side-by-side concerts with the SMU community. The quartet has also held residencies at the Curtis Institute, Colburn Conservatory, and Northern Michigan University. Recently, they’ve been selected to be the inaugural group for a new guest residency at the Music in the Morning series in Vancouver until 2025, where they will commission new works and lead extensive community engagement initiatives.

The Viano Quartet released *Portraits*, their first EP, through the Curtis Studio Label in summer 2023. Available to stream on all major music platforms, the recording is a final artistic statement of their time at the Curtis Institute, and features the beautiful *Andante Moderato* movement from Florence Price’s first string quartet. This summer the quartet was also re-invited to Chamber Music Northwest, the Bravo!Vail Festival and BISQFest, and appeared at the Intimacy of Creativity Festival in Hong Kong, Ottawa Chamberfest, Minnesota Beethoven Festival, Strings Music Festival, Highlands-Cashiers and Mt. Desert Festivals of Chamber Music, as well as Bay Chamber Concerts. During the 23/24 season the quartet can be heard in Canada, Arizona, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Florida, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland, Utah, New York and California.

The quartet achieved incredible success in their formative years, with an unbroken streak of top prizes at major competitions. In addition to their career-defining achievement at the 2019 Banff International String Quartet Competition, they also received the Grand Prize at the 2019 ENKOR International Music Competition and second prize at the 2019 Yellow Springs Chamber Music Competition. At the 2018 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition they received Third Prize, the Haydn Prize for the best performance of a Haydn quartet, and the Sidney Griller Award for the best performance of the compulsory work, Thomas Ades’ “The Four Quarters”. They received the Silver Medal at the 2018 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition and Third Prize at the 9th Osaka International Chamber Music Competition in 2017.

The Viano Quartet has collaborated with world-class musicians such as pianists Emanuel Ax, Marc-André Hamelin, Inon Barnatan and Elisso Virsaladze, violists Paul Coletti and Paul Neubauer, violinist Noah Bendix-Balgley, vocalist Fleur Barron and clarinetist David Shifrin. Their chief mentors include faculty of the Curtis Institute and Colburn Conservatory, as well as members of the Dover, Guarneri, and Tokyo string quartets.

The name “Viano” was created to describe the four individual instruments in a string quartet interacting as one. Each of the four instruments begins with the letter “v”, and like a piano, all four string instruments together play both harmony and melody, creating a unified instrument called the “Viano.”

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