

Fry Street Quartet

Concert program options for the 2019-20 season

Program I – Emergence

Josef Haydn	Quartet Op. 20, no.4
Libby Larsen	<i>Emergence</i> (2015, FSQ commission)
<i>I n t e r m i s s i o n</i>	
Johannes Brahms	Quartet in c minor, Op. 51, no.1

Anchored by the Fry Street's spellbinding commissioned quartet by Libby Larsen, entitled *Emergence*, this program features works that, each in their own time, broke the mold. The quartets of Haydn's Op. 20 marked a radical departure from his past works, Brahms' first published quartet followed his intentional destruction of at least twenty earlier efforts that he deemed unsatisfactory, and Larsen's *Emergence* depicts nothing less than a transformation of human consciousness.

Program II – Hungarian Revolutionaries

Josef Haydn	Quartet Op. 20, no.4
György Ligeti	Quartet No.1, <i>Metamorphoses nocturnes</i>
<i>I n t e r m i s s i o n</i>	
Béla Bartók	Quartet No.1

Haydn's revolution of the string quartet genre is universally acknowledged, but his connection to Hungarian culture is less celebrated. The 3rd and 4th movements of his innovative early quartet, Op. 20, no.4, feature a captivating gypsy influence. The revolution continues with two 20th century masters at the beginning of their compositional paths. Ligeti's striking First Quartet is one of his most important works before he left Hungary in 1956, and Bartok's First Quartet straddles his 19th century romantic roots with the groundbreaking innovations to quartet language that were to become fully formed in his later quartets.

Program III – The Spiritual String Quartet

Jennifer Higdon *Amazing Grace*
Benjamin Britten *Quartet no.3*

I n t e r m i s s i o n

Ludwig van Beethoven *Quartet in a minor, Op.132*

This program of spiritual quartet music opens with Higdon's moving arrangement of *Amazing Grace*. Britten's *Third Quartet* was also his last completed work, composed while he was very ill and clearly contemplating the profound notion of life and death, while the central essence of Beethoven's Op.132 is a heartfelt thanks to God for recovering from a near-fatal illness.

Program IV – Celebrating Beethoven's 250th

Ludwig van Beethoven *Quartet in A Major, Op. 18, no.5*
Ludwig van Beethoven *Quartet f minor, Op. 95, Serioso*

I n t e r m i s s i o n

Ludwig van Beethoven *Quartet in E-flat, Op.127*
OR *Quartet in a minor, Op.132*

Program V – American Women Composers

Laura Kaminsky *Rising Tide* (2012, FSQ commission)
Amy Beach *Quartet, Op. 89* (1929)

I n t e r m i s s i o n

Libby Larsen *Emergence* (2015, FSQ commission)
Joan Tower *Quartet No.1, Nightfields* (1994)

A mix-and-match program is also possible, subject to artist approval.