



The Sixty-sixth Season of
The William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin
Concerts

National Gallery of Art
2,650th Concert

Leipzig String Quartet
Andreas Seidel and Tilman Büning, *violin*
Ivo Bauer, *viola*
Matthias Moosdorf, *cello*

December 16, 2007
Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm
East Building Auditorium

Admission free

Program

Music by Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

String Quartet in B-flat Major, op. 18, no. 6 (1798–1800)

Allegro con brio

Adagio ma non troppo

Scherzo: Allegro; Trio

La malincolia: Adagio; allegretto quasi allegro

String Quartet in F Minor, op. 95 (“Serioso”) (1810)

Allegro con brio

Allegretto, ma non troppo

Allegro assai vivace, ma serioso

Larghetto espressivo; allegretto agitato

INTERMISSION

String Quartet in A Minor, op. 132 (“Heiliger Dankgesang”) (1825)

Assai sostenuto; allegro

Allegro ma non tanto

Heiliger Dankgesang eines Genesenen, in der Lydischen Tonart

Alla Marcia, assai vivace

Allegro appassionato

This concert is made possible in part by funds provided by the Embassy Series and is presented in cooperation with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Musicians

Formed in 1988, the Leipzig String Quartet is widely acclaimed as one of the most exciting string quartets on the international chamber music scene. Its availability at this time in Washington provides an ideal opportunity for the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Embassy Series, and the National Gallery of Art to join in celebrating the birthday of Ludwig van Beethoven (born December 16, 1770). The ensemble has been described as “one of the towering and most versatile quartets of our time” (*Neue Zuercher Zeitung*), and a *New York Times* critic wrote, “if there is a Leipzig sound, this is it!” Three members of the Leipzig String Quartet occupied first chairs in the famous Gewandhaus Orchestra. Among prizes awarded to the group are the 1991 International Competition of ARD Munich (Arbeitsgemeinschaft der öffentlich-rechtlichen Rundfunkanstalten der Bundesrepublik) and the Busch and Siemens prizes.

The quartet has concertized throughout Africa, Australia, Central and South America, Europe, Israel, Japan, and Southeast Asia. North American engagements include a recent appearance with pianist Christian Zimmermann at Lincoln Center’s Alice Tully Hall, Carnegie Hall’s quartet series in Weill Recital Hall, the 92nd Street Y, The Frick Collection, the Library of Congress, and Wolf Trap as well as engagements at the Casals Festival in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the Orford and Toronto Summer Music Festivals, and the Ottawa Chamber Music Festival. The quartet was one of the initiators of the 1996 and 1997 Beethoven Quartet Cycles, offered jointly with five other quartets in more than fifteen European music centers as a sign of European friendship.

The quartet’s more than sixty recordings include a broad repertoire that stretches from Mozart to Cage and have garnered international critical acclaim and awards. The Leipzig String Quartet records exclusively for MDG (Musikproduktion Dabringhaus und Grimm) and appears at the National Gallery by arrangement with Shupp Artists Management of Port Jefferson, New York.

Next Week at the National Gallery of Art

Chris Brubeck's Triple Play

Jazz, blues, and folk music for the holidays

December 23, 2007

Sunday Evening, 6:30 pm

West Building, West Garden Court

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed. Please be sure that cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices are turned off.

Please note that late entry or reentry of the East Building after 6:30 pm is not permitted.

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