



Biography

Belcea Quartet

Corina Belcea (Violin)
Laura Samuel (Violin)
Krzysztof Chorzelski (Viola)
Antoine Lederlin (Violoncello)

www.belceaquartet.com

"A world-class ensemble..."
Erica Jeal, *The Guardian*, 23 September 2008

The Belcea Quartet has gained an enviable reputation as one of the leading quartets of the new generation. They continue to take the British and international chamber music circuit by storm, consistently receiving critical acclaim for their performances. The Quartet was established at the Royal College of Music in 1994 and has since been coached by the Chilingirian, Amadeus and Alban Berg Quartets. They are Quartet in Residence Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London and also at the Atheneum Concert Hall in Bucharest.

The Belcea Quartet won the Gramophone Award for best debut recording in 2001. Their discography for EMI includes Brahms' String Quartet Op. 51 No. 1 and second String Quintet with Thomas Kakuska; Fauré's *La Bonne Chanson* with Ian Bostridge; Schubert's *Trout* Quintet with Thomas Adès and Corin Long; a double disc of Britten's string quartets; Mozart's "Dissonance" and "Hoffmeister" quartets; and the complete Bartók quartets, for which the Quartet was awarded the title Chamber Music Ensemble of the Year by Germany's prestigious Echo Klassik Awards and nominated for a 2008 Gramophone Award. Their most recent release is a double disc of the late Schubert Quartets and the String Quintet with Valentin Erben for EMI.

The Belcea Quartet's international engagements regularly take them to the Vienna Konzerthaus and Musikverein, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Brussels' Palais des Beaux Arts, Lisbon's Gulbenkian, Zurich's Tonhalle, Stockholm's Konzerthuset, Paris' Chatelet and Opera Bastille, Milan's Sala Verdi, New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center and San Francisco's Herbst Theatre, and to festivals including Luberon, Istanbul, Trondheim, Lausanne, Salzburg, Mecklenburg, and the Schwarzenberg Schubertiade. In the UK they regularly appear at the Edinburgh, Aldeburgh, Perth, Bath and Cheltenham festivals, and at the Wigmore Hall where they were resident Quartet from 2001 to 2006. They regularly work with leading instrumentalists including Thomas Adès, Isabelle van Keulen, Michael Collins, Paul Lewis, Imogen Cooper, Yovan Markovitch, Natalie Clein, Piotr Anderszewski and Valentin Erben. Collaborations with singers have included performances of Fauré's *La Bonne Chanson* with Anne Sofie von Otter at the Cité de la Musique, Respighi's *Il Tramonto* with Angelika Kirchschrager at the Langeland Festival and with Ian Bostridge at New York's Zankel Hall and Washington's Library of Congress. This year they will give the world premiere of Mark-Anthony Turnage's new work for string quartet – 'Twisted Blues with Twisted Ballad' – at Wigmore Hall, Cologne Philharmonie, Amsterdam Concertgebouw and the Vienna Konzerthaus. From the beginning of the 2010/11 season, the Belcea Quartet is Ensemble in Residence at the Vienna Konzerthaus.

2010/2011

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