FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC

Angeles Quartet

Sunday, October 14, 1990, 3:00 p.m.
Faye Spanos Concert Hall
University of the Pacific
Stockton, California

Program

String Quartet in D, Op. 18, No. 3 — Ludwig van Beethoven

- Allegro
- Andante con moto
- Allegro
- Presto

String Quartet No. 1, "Kreutzer" — Leos Janacek

- Adagio - con moto
- Con moto
- Con moto
- Con moto (Adagio)

Intermission

Quartet in B flat, Op. 67, No. 3 — Johannes Brahms

- Vivace
- Andante
- Agitato - Allegretto non troppo
- Poco allegretto con variazioni

1990-91
THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

The Angeles Quartet

Kathleen Lenski, violin
Roger Wilkie, violin
Brian Dembow, viola
Stephen Erdody, cello

Friends of Chamber Music is opening its 35th Anniversary Season today with a performance by the critically acclaimed string ensemble from Los Angeles, the Angeles Quartet.

Critics have applauded their interpretations of two of the works to be heard this afternoon.

The Long Beach Press-Telegram praised their "passionate, telling performance of Janacek's stunning Quartet, a performance of intensity, charm and power."

And the Los Angeles Times said they "gave Brahms his due in a warmly inflected, tightly packed and affectionate performance."

The four musicians have performed individually with such ensembles as the New York String Quartet and A Musical Offering. They first performed together as a quartet in 1987 for the California Chamber Symphony Society, and before their debut as the Angeles Quartet in 1988 they drew much media interest.

In its inaugural year, the Quartet gave more than 30 performances, including concerts at five music festivals in eastern and western states.

That same year they appeared at the First American String Quartet Congress at the University of Maryland and at the Smithsonian Institute in the nation's capital, where the Washington Post praised their "passion and superb ensemble sound."

During this 1990-91 season, the Angeles Quartet will make its Canadian debut, perform for the Violin Society of America, release a recording of the Mozart "Dissonant" Quartet in January, and appear with Jeffrey Kahane.

The ensemble also has performed chamber music with pianist Gary Graffman and soprano Claudine Carlson.

PROGRAM NOTES

Beethoven: Quartet in D Major, Op. 18, No. 3

The D Major Quartet was undoubtedly the first of the six Opus 18 quartets to be written; Beethoven resorted the series to make a stronger sequence. Composed between 1798 and 1800, the Op. 18 quartets were dedicated to Prince Lobkowitz.

The No. 3 is a traditional work, characterized by lyricism and grace, with the first violin tending to dominate.

Janacek: String Quartet No. 1, "The Kreutzer Sonata"
(b. Hukvaldy, Moravia, July 3, 1854. d. Moravaska, Ostrava, August 12, 1928.)

In 1917, the aging Janacek fell in love with a 25-year-old married woman, Kamila Stosslova. Although the relationship apparently remained platonic, Janacek was consumed with passion and wrote many works in the final decade of his life.

His Quartet No. 1 takes its inspiration from Tolstoy's novella "The Kreutzer Sonata," in which a deranged man tells of his suspicion of his wife, a pianist, and the violinist she accompanies in a performance of Beethoven's "Kreutzer Sonata." The man returns home unexpectedly, finds them together, and stabs his wife to death. Janacek's biographer Jaroslav Vogel reports that Janacek meant the work to be a kind of moral protest against men's despotic attitude to women.

Listeners should not attempt to hear exact representations of these ideas in the music; it is an abstract work of art that creates an agitated, grim atmosphere.

Brahms: Quartet in Bb, Op. 67, No. 3

In this 1876 quartet, Brahms successfully unites a striking range of styles within one work—almost a conscious experiment in juxtaposition. The work is also notable for the nature and function of its variation finale, which brings together two of the composer's main preoccupations of earlier works: the role of a finale as a goal, and his interest in variation form.

In the final movement the cantabile theme goes through eight transformations, while the last two passages use the first movement's vigorous, leaping theme contrapuntally. Brahms thus unites the four movements in one satisfying intellectual whole.

November 18, 1990

Bonus Concert

Twin Pines Woodwind Quintet

Presented by Kindred Arts of Manteca

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
910 E. North Street
Manteca

4:00 p.m.

(3:00 p.m. workshop cancelled)

FRIENDS OF CHAMBER MUSIC 1990-91 SEASON

Presented in Cooperation with University of the Pacific
and the UOP Conservatory of Music
in the Faye Spanos Concert Hall at UOP

Angeles String Quartet
Sunday, October 14, 3 p.m.

Empire Brass Quintet
Sunday, November 4, 3 p.m.

Apple Hill Chamber Players
Sunday, January 13, 1991, 3 p.m.

The Waverly Consort
Saturday, March 2, 1991, 8 p.m.

Tchaikovsky Chamber Orchestra
Saturday, April 20, 1991, 8 p.m.

TO OUR AUDIENCE

The use of cameras and recording devices of any kind is forbidden.

Smoking in the lobby and auditorium is prohibited.

Please disengage pagers and electronic watches.

UOP students are admitted free on a space availability basis.

Concert programs are subject to change without notice.

Seating is unreserved for the 1990-91 season.

For more information about Friends of Chamber Music, call 948-2916 or 463-5786.

Friends of Chamber Music, P.O. Box 4874, Stockton, CA 95204

Tickets: Single $15 ($4 for children), available at the door.
Season: $55 — Visa and Mastercard accepted.
Student Season: $10.

Birthday Party

Please join us for a piece of Birthday Cake on the lawn north of the Concert Hall during intermission.

Birthday Cake courtesy of Country Club Safeway Bakery

FOCM welcomes children to its concerts. We do ask, however, that children 10 years of age & under (no babes in arms, please) are accompanied by an adult. At the request of artists, children are not to sit in the first 4 rows.

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