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Concert: Ithaca College Concerts 2008-9. Guarneri String Quartet

Guarneri String Quartet

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ITHACA COLLEGE

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ITHACA COLLEGE CONCERTS 2008-9

GUARNERI STRING QUARTET

Arnold Steinhardt, violin
John Dalley, violin
Michael Tree, viola
Peter Wiley, cello

Ford Hall
Friday, October 3, 2008
8:15 p.m.

ITHACA

PROGRAM

String Quartet No. 3

Béla Bartók
(1881-1945)

- I. *Prima parte*
- II. *Seconda parte*
- III. *Recapitulazione della prima parte*
- IV. *Coda*

String Quartet No. 15 in D Minor, K.421 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

- I. *Allegro*
- II. *Andante*
- III. *Menuetto: Allegretto*
- IV. *Allegro ma non troppo*

INTERMISSION

String Quartet No. 12 in F major,
Op. 96 "The American"

Antonín Dvořák
(1841-1904)

- I. *Allegra, ma non troppo*
- II. *Lento*
- III. *Molta vivace*
- IV. *Finale: Vivace, ma non troppo*

Recordings: Surroundby Entertainment, Arabesque, RCA Victor, Philips Classics
Program subject to change at the discretion of the artist.
Artists represented by Herbert Barrett Management, New York, NY,
www.herbertbarrett.com

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in the Whalen Center concert halls. Please turn off all cell phone ringtones.

THE ARTISTS

The renowned Guarneri String Quartet "is among the most revered and enduring ensembles of its kind in the world" (National Public Radio) and has circled the globe countless times since it was formed in 1964, playing in the most prestigious halls in North and South America, Mexico, Europe, Asia and Australia. The Guarneri String Quartet has announced its retirement at the completion of the 2008-09 season. In their final season the quartet will celebrate by doing what it does best - touring extensively throughout the United States as they have for nearly 45 years. Performances include their annual Metropolitan Museum of Art concert series, instituted in 1965, as well as a collaboration with the Johannes String Quartet. The ensemble also makes its annual tour to Europe this winter.

The Guarneri has been featured on many television and radio specials, documentaries and educational presentations both in North America and abroad. They have been interviewed by Charles Kuralt on CBS' nationwide television program, "Sunday Morning." A full-length film entitled *High Fidelity - The Guarneri String Quartet* was released nationally, to great critical and public acclaim, in the fall of 1989 (the film was directed and produced by Allan Miller who was also the director/producer of the Academy Award-winning documentary, *From Mozart to Mao*, which dealt with Isaac Stern's visit to China). The quartet is also the subject of various books including *Quartet* by Helen Drees Ruttencutter (Lippincott & Crowell, 1980), *The Art of Quartet Playing: the Guarneri in Conversation with David Blum* (Alfred A. Knopf, 1986) and Arnold Steinhardt's *Indivisible by Four: A String Quartet in Pursuit of Harmony* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998).

In addition to mastering the finest works in the existing quartet repertoire, the Guarneri String Quartet is committed to performing and popularizing works by today's foremost composers. In the spring of 2008 the quartet, in collaboration with the Johannes String Quartet, will premiere new works by acclaimed American composers William Bolcom and Derek Bermel, a program which will be repeated in their final season. In the 2003-04 season, they gave the first performance of *String Quartet No. 5 (In Search of La Vita Nuova)* written for them by the award-winning American composer, Richard Danielpour. Mr. Danielpour had previously written a *Concerto for String Quartet and Orchestra*, commissioned by the National Symphony Orchestra and written expressly for the Guarneri String Quartet. It was premiered with the NSO in the Kennedy Center under the direction of Leonard Slatkin in January, 2000 followed by its New York premiere at Carnegie Hall later that same month.

In the 2001-02 season, the Guarneri gave the first performances of *String Quartet No. 5*, written for them by Lukas Foss and this work remains in their active repertoire.

In 1982, Mayor Koch presented the Quartet with the first New York Seal of Recognition. The Quartet was awarded Honorary Doctorate degrees by the University of South Florida (1976) and the State University of New York (1983). In 1992, the Guarneri String Quartet became the only quartet to receive the prestigious Award of Merit from the Association of Performing Arts Presenters in New York City. The Quartet continues their longstanding series and residency at the University of Maryland where they are on the faculty. In 2004, the Guarneri received the Richard J. Bogomolny National Service Award from Chamber Music America. This is CMA's highest honor, given annually to an individual or ensemble for a lifetime of service and achievement in the field. In 2005, Guarneri received the Ford Honors Award from the University Musical Society of the University of Michigan where they have performed 30 times over the past 40 years.

The Guarneri String Quartet has recorded for Surroundings by Entertainment, which released a CD in spring 2001 of quartets by Ravel, Debussy and Fauré. Several of its recordings on both RCA Red Seal and Philips have won international awards, including its recent recording of Juan Crisostomo de Arriaga's String Quartets Nos. 1-3 (Philips), which won the 1996 Deutsche Schallplattenkritik Award in Germany. Among its other award-winning recordings are collaborations with such artists as Artur Schnabel, Pinchas Zukerman; and Boris Kroyt and Mischa Schneider of the Budapest Quartet. They have also recorded on the Arabesque label Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 3 and its first ever recording of the great Mendelssohn Octet, Op. 20, in collaboration with the Orion Quartet.