



ARIS QUARTET

Programme suggestions 2023/24

Thanksgiving

Felix Mendelssohn

String Quartet No. 1 in E-flat Major Op. 12

György Ligeti

String Quartet No. 1 'Metamorphoses nocturnes'

*** Interval ***

Ludwig van Beethoven

String Quartet in a Minor Op. 132 'Holy Song of Thanksgiving'

Beethoven's late string quartets revolutionized the genre with their ground-breaking structure and breaking with all conventions of form. Even today they have not lost any of their modernity. The works not only reflect strength, conflict and drama, but also great sensitivity and cantabile - such as in the '*Holy song of thanksgiving of a convalescent*', one of the most important slow movements in music history.

While many contemporaries were still dismissive of Beethoven's compositions, the young Felix Mendelssohn received them with the greatest enthusiasm and intuitively imitated them in his first quartets op. 12 and op. 13. Before the break, the first quartet *Métamorphoses nocturnes* by the Hungarian master and jubilarian György Ligeti, who would have celebrated his 100th birthday in 2023, sounds in complete contrast, gripping and with an almost compelling atmospheric density.

Connectedness

Fanny Hensel

String Quartet in E-flat Major

Leoš Janáček

String Quartet No. 2 'Intimate Letters'

*** Interval ***

Franz Schubert

String Quartet in a Minor D 804 'Rosamunde'

Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn had an extraordinary relationship, but the professional success of the siblings could not have been more different: while her younger brother experienced a high degree of admiration and respect during his lifetime, Fanny was denied comparable recognition due to the role model of her time - completely wrongly, as her equally refined and profound string quartet in E flat major proves.

From the point of view of 74-year-old Leoš Janáček, to speak of solidarity alone would be an understatement, as he was inflamed with the greatest passion for the young Kamila Stösslova. In his string quartet *Intimate letters* he creates a fiery and ecstatic monument to their relationship. This emotionally charged programme ends with Franz Schubert's famous *Rosamunde* Quartet. Inspired by the romantic play of the same name, full of love, longing and intrigue, he creates a wistful, ambiguous work that rightly counts as one of the greatest works in string quartet literature.