

# THE CHESTER STRING QUARTET

WITH YIZHAK SCHOTTEN, GUEST VIOLIST

1997/98 20



8:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1998

IN THE AUDITORIUM ON THE IUSB CAMPUS

ROBERT W. DEMAREE JR., DEAN  
DIVISION OF THE ARTS

## THE CHESTER STRING QUARTET

AARON BEROFKY  
*violin*

KATHRYN VOTAPEK  
*violin*

DAVID HARDING  
*viola*

FELIX WANG  
*cello*

YIZHAK SCHOTTEN  
*guest violist*

### Program

#### **Sonata in F Major for Two Violins**

Leclair

Allegro assai

Aria: Andante grazioso

Gigue: Allegro moderato

#### **String Quartet #6, Op. 101**

Shostakovich

Allegretto

Moderato con moto

Lento

Lento-Allegretto

### *Intermission*

#### **Sonata in b-minor for Clarinet and Strings, Op. 115**

Brahms

Allegro

Adagio

Andantino-Presto non assai, ma con sentimento

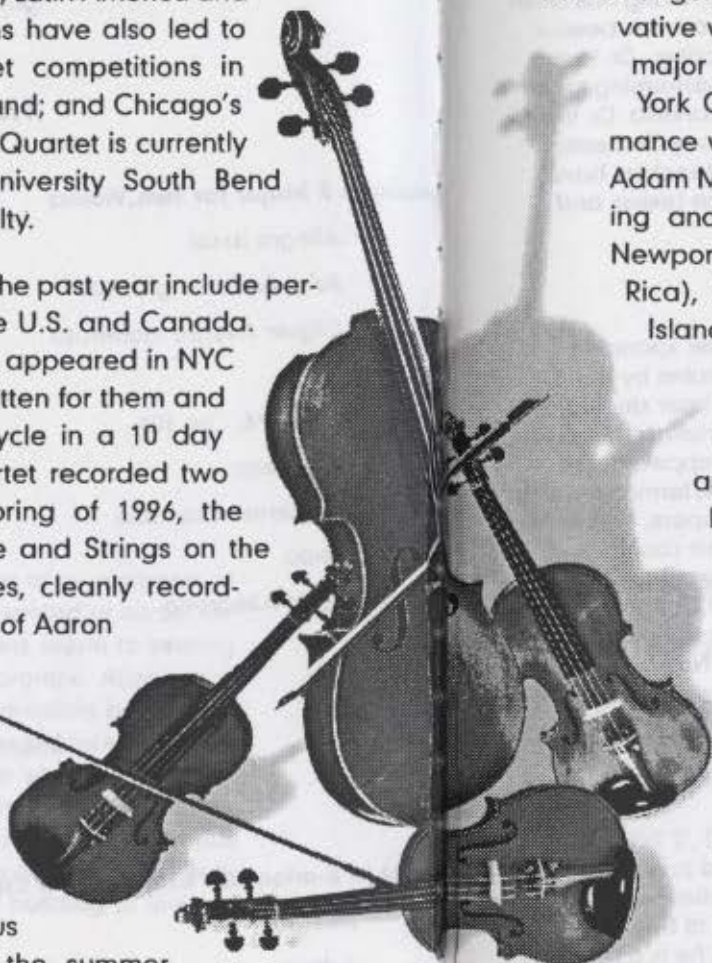
Con moto

As a courtesy to the artists and to other members of the audience, latecomers will be seated at an appropriate time. For the same reasons return to seating following intermission should be prompt. Attendance by children under the age of responsible behavior is discouraged. Audio and video recording equipment, cameras, cellular phones or other electronic devices may not be used at any performance in any auditorium of IUSB. Eating and drinking in the Campus Auditorium, Recital Hall and Upstage are prohibited. Smoking is not permitted in any building of Indiana University South Bend.

Audience members wishing to greet the performers should proceed to the lounge and corridor on the east side of the auditorium. Please do not enter the back stage area following the performance.

One of America's most distinguished and sought after chamber ensembles, the Chester String Quartet has been called "one of the best and brightest of the country's young string quartets" by the Boston Globe. Their engaging style and deep sense of musical commitment have brought them rave reviews from audiences and critics throughout the United States, as well as Canada, Latin America and Europe. The Chester's interpretations have also led to top prizes at international quartet competitions in Munich, Germany; Portsmouth, England; and Chicago's Discovery Competition. The Chester Quartet is currently Quartet-in-Residence at Indiana University South Bend where its members are full-time faculty.

Activities of the Quartet during the past year include performances from coast to coast in the U.S. and Canada. During this time the Chester Quartet appeared in NYC to give world premieres of works written for them and performed the entire Beethoven Cycle in a 10 day period in Oklahoma City. The Quartet recorded two compact discs released in the spring of 1996, the Complete Mozart Quartets for Flute and Strings on the Chesky label ("expert performances, cleanly recorded" Stereo Review, 9/96) and Music of Aaron Kernis on the New Albion label ("5 stars...A Classic" San Francisco Chronicle, 5/96). In February 1996 they performed in NYC at the 92nd Street Y and recorded another CD for New Albion. Their summer schedule included performances at numerous festivals and faculty positions at the summer chamber music schools of the Icicle Creek (WA) and Madeline Island (WI) festivals.



The Quartet's CD on the Koch label of Quartets by Barber, Piston, and Porter received critical acclaim from publications including Fanfare and Gramophone magazines and the Los Angeles Times. In addition to its performances of the standard repertoire and commissioning of new quartets, the Chester Quartet has an ongoing interest in a wide range of collaborative and innovative work. In past seasons they have appeared in all the major halls of NYC including performances with the New York Chamber Ensemble at Alice Tully Hall and a performance with noted jazz artists Al Foster, Charlie Hayden, and Adam Mackowicz at Carnegie Recital Hall. Summer performing and teaching appearances include such festivals as Newport, Aspen, the International Festival of San Jose (Costa Rica), Rotterdam (Holland), Guelph (Canada), Madeline Island, Icicle Creek, South Mountain, Cape May, Pittsburgh Summerfest, The Quartet Program, Music Mountain, and numerous others. Members of the Quartet have joined in concert with many international solo artists and chamber musicians, including pianists Ruth Laredo, Alexander Toradze, Lydia Artimiyw, Ralph Votapek, Steven DeGroot, and Alexander Kriyanov; members of the Guarneri, Cleveland, and Muir string quartets; string players Carter Brey, Norman Fischer, Marcus Thompson, Karen Tuttle, Alexander Baille, and Boris Pergamenchikof; and vocal artists such as Dawn Upshaw, Lucy Shelton, and Glen Seibert. The Quartet previously recorded for the CRI, Stolat, and Pantheon labels and has been heard numerous times on National Public Radio, the BBC, and German State Radio.

**Felix Wang**, from Okemos, Michigan, has recently completed a Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of Michigan. He received his Bachelor of Music from the Peabody Institute, and his Master of Music from the New England Conservatory. In 1993, Dr. Wang was a recipient of a prestigious Beebe Grant for study abroad, and spent the year in London. He has won several competitions, including the 1992 National Arts and Letters Cello Competition, where he appeared with the Phoenix Symphony. Among the judges were Mstislav Rostropovich and Raya Garbousova. During the summer, Dr. Wang has been teaching at the Interlochen Center for the Arts, and in the past has been a participant of the Tanglewood and Ravinia Festivals. This spring, Dr. Wang will join a distinguished faculty giving master classes and performing chamber music at The International Youth Arts Festival in Banff, Canada. Dr. Wang has recently become the principal cellist of the Flint Symphony Orchestra, and is a frequent substitute with the Detroit Symphony. His teachers have included Erling Blomdal Bengtsson, William Pleeth, Laurence Lesser, and Stephen Kates.

Israeli-born **Yizhak Schotten** has an illustrious musical career spanning several continents. Discovered and brought to the United States by the renowned violist William Primrose, becoming his pupil, and later studied with Lillian Fuchs. Mr. Schotten has performed in Japan, Israel, Holland, Austria, Taiwan, Malaysia, Mexico, England, and Canada. His solo appearances with orchestras in this country and abroad have included performances with conductors Seiji Ozawa, Sergiu Commissiona, Thomas Schippers, and Arthur Fiedler, among others. He has also appeared on many of this country's prestigious concert series including Town Hall, Carnegie Hall, Bargemusic, and Merkin Hall in New York, Boston's Jordan Hall, the Library of Congress and Phillips Collection in Washington, D. C. the Dame Myra Hess Series in Chicago, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and broadcasts on National Public Radio. As a member of the Trio d'Accordo, he won the Concert Artists Guild International Competition in New York. He has performed and taught at many festivals including Aspen, Tanglewood, Banff, Meadowmount, and Interlochen and is founder and Music Director of the Kapalua Music Festival in Maui, Hawaii.

Yizhak Schotten was formerly with the Boston Symphony and principal violist of the Cincinnati and Houston Symphonies. He was artistic director of the 1997 Interlochen Viola Congress and was featured artist at five others. Professor of Viola at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, he is a teacher of prize winning students and is very active giving master classes to violists throughout the United States and abroad. He has three solo discs on Crystal Records and one on CRI that was chosen as "Critics Choice" in *HIGH FIDELITY* magazine. There was recently a feature article about him in *STRAD* magazine that called him "one of America's finest violists"

### Production Staff

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