

# X CHAOS

STRING QUARTET



**PROGRAMMES**  
2026 - 27 - 28

## “Chaos + Logos = Pathos.” – Vito Mancuso



We live by the motto *Chaos + Logos = Pathos* — a reflection of our fresh blend of refined ensemble playing and fiery energy. Since founding the Chaos String Quartet in Vienna in 2019, we've drawn on an interdisciplinary fascination with chaos to shape our musical identity.

Our programmes bring together bold combinations of classical and contemporary repertoire, often infused with experimental ideas and moments of improvisation. As BBC New Generation Artists for 2023–2025, we're proudly making our mark on international chamber music stages.

In 2026, we made our debut at the Konzerthaus Berlin, launched our second album on the Solo Musica label — a signature programme centred on the concept of chaos, supported by SWR and the BBC. We also developed a special project reimagining Haydn's Op. 20 Sun Quartets through six new commissions, which premiered at the 2026 String Quartet Biennale Amsterdam, and embarked on a teaching residency at the MDW Wien.



### PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Debut appearances at the Konzerthaus Berlin, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Bozar Brussels, Concertgebouw Amsterdam and Beethovenfest Bonn
- Return visits to London's Wigmore Hall and the Musikverein in our hometown of Vienna
- Intercontinental tours across North America, Mexico, and China

### AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Emerging Ensemble of the Ulysses Platform 2025-2028
- BBC New Generation artists 2023-2025
- New Austrian Sound of Music programme 2023-2024
- International String Quartet Competitions Bad Tölz (2023), Haydn (2023), ARD (2022), Bordeaux (2022)

### PROGRAMMES

In this brochure, you can find more details about the programmes we like to present to audiences:

- **Colour out Loud**
- **À la Carte**
- **Haydn Reframed**

For additional information and tailored programmes, please get in touch!



# COLOUR OUT LOUD

## WHERE MUSIC ERUPTS IN TECHNICOLOUR – FROM GESUALDO TO MILES DAVIS

### *What colour is Music?*

Join us on a vibrant journey through sound and time, as we explore the rich spectrum of musical colour. From the Renaissance hues of Lasso to the bold contrasts of Kurtág, from Schubert's warm tones to Bartók's earthy rhythms – every piece reveals a unique sonic palette.

Some composers, like Olivier Messiaen and Igor Stravinsky, quite literally saw colours when they heard music. What does Messiaen's blue sound like? And how does Miles Davis paint with sound?

Whether it's the shimmering soundscapes of Fauré or the bold chromatic shifts of Gesualdo, we paint with tones and travel colourfully through music history. Come and see – and hear – for yourself.

## REPertoire

**György Kurtág (1926\*)** – 6 Moments Musicaux: V. Rappel des oiseaux

**Orlando di Lasso** – Prophetiae Sibyllarum: Prologue

**Franz Schubert** – String Quartet D46: I. Adagio - Allegro Con moto

**Olivier Messiaen** – O sacrum Convivium, arr. CSQ

**Béla Bartók** – String Quartet No. 3 Sz. 85

**Chaos String Quartet** – Soundpainting (Impro)

*Interval*

**Igor Stravinsky** – Trois Pièces: I.

**Carlo Gesualdo** – Moro Lasso, arr. CSQ

**Igor Stravinsky** – Trois Pièces: II.

**Miles Davis/Bill Evans** – Blue in Green, arr. CSQ

**Igor Stravinsky** – Trois Pièces: III.

**Gabriel Fauré** – String Quartet in e minor, Op. 121

DURATION: CA. 75 MIN.

AVAILABLE FROM OCTOBER 2026

# À LA CARTE

## COMPOSE YOUR OWN CONCERT



### *Welcome to our musical kitchen.*

Here, programmes are not fixed, they are composed to taste.

No two concerts need to be the same. You are invited to shape a concert that fits your audience and space. This flexible format offers a selection of works, each with its own distinct flavour and character.

Think of it as a musical menu: each work brings its own flavour, character, and colour. You can mix and match, contrast and combine, or let us suggest a curated sequence. Together, we can create a programme that feels balanced, engaging, and full of personality.

## MENU

**Joseph Haydn** – String Quartet in C major Op. 20 No. 2 (23')  
CRUMBLY, REFRESHING

**György Kurtág** – 6 Moments Musicaux, Op.44 (16')  
CAPRICIOUS, ECLECTIC, SWEET AND SOUR

**Gabriel Fauré** – String Quartet in e minor, Op. 121 (25')  
CREAMY, SILKY, WITH NOTES OF CARAMEL

**Alessio Elia** – New work for Chaos String Quartet (20')  
LIGHT, ETHEREAL

**Franz Schubert** – String Quartet No.15 in G major (48')  
BITTERSWEET, LUSCIOUS, WITH A LASTING FINISH

**Ludwig van Beethoven** – String Quartet No.1 in F major, Op. 135 (27')  
HEARTY, BOLD, DEEP, WITH A HINT OF LEMON ZEST



AVAILABLE FROM JANUARY 2027

# HAYDN REFRAMED



## OPUS 20 QUARTET REIMAGINED

Discover how Haydn, at forty in 1776, pioneered a new musical language influenced by the transformative ideas of Rousseau, Goethe, and Schiller. Are you curious how this music still resonates, inspiring new generations of talented composers? If so, this programme is for you!

It pairs two contrasting quartets from Haydn's Op. 20 with two world premieres by outstanding young Dutch composers, each piece directly inspired by Haydn. Timeless music evolves before your eyes, revealing its enduring essence in new colours and language today.

## HAYD'N SEEK

### CLASSIC MEETS JAZZ

In this programme, Haydn's Op. 20 quartets are deconstructed, extended and re-woven into new rhythmic and sonic landscapes with Luxembourgish jazz pianist **Arthur Possing**.

A performance in which classical string quartet writing and jazz piano groove meet seamlessly, full of energy, spontaneity and surprise for both audience and performers.

DURATION: CA. 70 MIN.

AVAILABLE FROM APRIL 2026

## REPERTOIRE

**Joseph Haydn** – String Quartet in C major, Op 20 No. 2

**Jan-Peter de Graaff** (\*1992) – Battleground (2025)

**Joseph Haydn** – String Quartet in F Minor, Op. 20 No. 5

**Frieda Gustavs** (\*1993) – Things that do not say anything back | Rare Junk | Above the heads of the living (2025)

DURATION: CA. 70 MIN.

AVAILABLE FROM OCTOBER 2026

# Chaos is our creation – the beginning of everything.



## SUSANNE SCHÄFFER

### Violin

Once you hear Susanne play, it's obvious: she's a magician! After studying in London and graduating in Vienna, she found her inspiration in chamber music "sabbaths" at Prussia Cove. Susanne is the Hungarian-German founding mother of the Chaos String Quartet. Her magical tools? An impeccable sense of timing, a vast palette of colours, and her enchanted Testore violin. Off stage, she watches documentaries, listens to Latin music, and writes lists... about anything and everything!



## ESZTER KRUCHIÓ

### Violin

Eszter is fearless, constantly challenging routines and encouraging the quartet to embark on new musical adventures. Born in Budapest and raised in Vienna, she studied under Ernst Kovacic, Tanja Becker-Bender, and Ulf Schneider. For her artistic doctorate, she is focusing on Ligeti's string quartets. On tour, she is the quartet's driver and planner, bringing calm amidst the chaos. Offstage, she enjoys cycling, reading, listening to free jazz, and keeping everyone entertained with her sharp wit.



## SARA MARZADORI

### Viola

Sara is the vibrant Italian heart of the quartet, full of warmth and chaotic creativity. Her avid reading habit and regular collaborations with the Spira Mirabilis group greatly inspire her music-making. Guided by mentors like Veronika Hagen and Thomas Riebl, her sound is deeply emotional. Just don't tell her that an "adagio" is slow—her love-hate relationship with the metronome is legendary! Off stage, she enjoys good food, excellent coffee, and cherishing life's moments analogue-style.



## BAS JONGEN

### Cello

Bas has superpowers. He can memorise a score in his head and play it with total focus, making us feel safe on stage. His 1696 Hendrick Jacobs cello, built in the Netherlands just like him, sings with a sound shaped under the guidance of Torleif Thedéen and Reinhard Latzko. Other powers? Moonlighting as a physicist, consuming heroic amounts of cheese, falling sleeping anywhere, and mastering new accents. The downside? Forgetting train times and concert outfits!

*“It’s wonderful that albums this radical still exist”* RONDO

*“with its visceral sound and provocative notes, it marks the Chaos Quartet’s coming of age in impressive terms.”*  
GRAMOPHONE

*“Magnificent. This quartet brims with vitality”*  
VIELLE CARNE

*“A cleverly constructed album, brimming with idiosyncratic energy.”*  
DE VOLKSKRANT



Exploring the idea of chaos as a musical and structural principle, our latest album centres on Ligeti’s Second String Quartet and brings together music by Bach, Rebel, Rameau, Haydn, Beethoven and Schnittke, connected by improvised transitions by Samu Gryllus.

The album was co-produced by SWR and BBC Radio 3 as part of the BBC New Generation Artist scheme, and released on the Solo Musica label on 13 February 2026.



*“Stunningly accurate playing... an impressive debut”*  
BBC Music Magazine

Debut album on the label Solo Musica featuring works by Haydn, Ligeti’s First String Quartet and Hensel.



# CHAOS

STRING QUARTET

## CONTACT

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## BOOKINGS

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