

Pražák Quartet

Jana Vonášková, violin | Marie Magdalena Fuxová, violin
Josef Kluson, viola | Pavel Jonáš Krejčí, cello

The Pražák Quartet – one of today's leading international chamber music ensembles - was created in 1972 while its members were students at the Prague Conservatory. They won major chamber music prizes early on, including first prize at the prestigious Evian String Quartet Competition, along with a special recording prize from Radio France. Since then, the Quartet has established itself on major world podiums through its musicality and polished quartet playing that carries on the special Czech tradition of music-making.

The Pražák Quartet has been at home in concert venues worldwide for decades. They are regular guests in the major European musical capitals such as Prague, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Milan, Madrid, London, Berlin, and Munich, and have been invited to participate in many international festivals, where they have collaborated with such artists as Menahem Pressler, Jon Nakamatsu, Cynthia Phelps, Roberto Diaz, Josef Suk, and Sharon Kam. In recent years, the Quartet has a special collaboration with pianist François Dumont, including making recordings and giving numerous performances at concert halls such as the Theatre des Champs-Élysées and the Salle Gaveau in Paris, and at festivals such as the Cartagena Music Festival in Colombia.

The quartet has toured widely in North America, having performed in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Dallas, Houston, Washington, Philadelphia, Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver and many others. The quartet returns to the US and Canada every other year.

The Pražák Quartet has recorded extensively for Praga Digitals, releasing 50 award-winning CDs. In addition to numerous radio recordings in France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the Czech Republic, the Pražák Quartet has also made recordings for Supraphon, Panton, Orfeo, Ottavo, Bonton, and Nuova Era. The Quartet's recent recordings for the Praga Digitals label include a disc of the last 3 quartets of Joseph Haydn, which received critical acclaim from The Strad and Diapason among others, and a CD in collaboration with François Dumont, celebrating the 200th birthday of César Franck. The Quartet's latest recording, released in August 2024, is of Haydn's Seven Last Words of Christ with Irish soprano Helen Kearns.

Members of the Quartet also regularly give master classes and coaching to young musicians and ensembles at various festivals and courses.