

46th SEASON



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/ONLINE POSTING:**

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**SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS  
ÉBÈNE QUARTET**



**Thursday, April 16, 2026 | 7:30pm  
Herbst Theatre**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA** – March 27, 2026 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) presents the **Ébène Quartet** on **Thursday, April 16, 2026, 7:30pm** at **Herbst Theatre**. **Tickets are \$80/\$70/\$60 and can be purchased at [sfperformances.org](https://sfperformances.org) or by calling 415.392.2545. Tickets can also be purchased at the door as available, including 50% off student rush tickets and 20% off senior rush tickets.**

“We eagerly look forward to the return of the acclaimed Ébène Quartet. Renowned throughout Europe for their thoughtful programming and interesting collaborations, we’re delighted to welcome them back for this program of beloved chamber music favorites.” — Melanie Smith, SFP President

**The evening’s program will be as follows:**

**BEETHOVEN:** String Quartet in G Major, Opus 18, No. 2

**DEBUSSY:** String Quartet in G Minor

**BRAHMS:** String Quartet in A Minor, Opus 51, No. 2

## ABOUT ÉBÈNE QUARTET

For more than two decades, the **Ébène Quartet** has been at the forefront, breathing new life into familiar repertoire while always seeking further connection to its audience.

After studying with Quatuor Ysaÿe in Paris and with Gábor Takács, Eberhard Feltz, and György Kurtág, Ébène's unprecedented and outstanding victory at the ARD Music Competition in 2004 marked the beginning of its rise to prominence, leading to numerous further prizes and accolades. In 2005 the quartet received the Belmont Prize of the Forberg-Schneider Foundation, was a recipient of the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award in 2007, and in 2019 became the first ensemble to be honored with the Frankfurt Music Trade Fair Prize.

Alongside traditional repertoire, the quartet regularly explores other musical genres, including jazz standards and pop songs. To date, the quartet has released three albums in these genres: *Fiction* (2010), *Brazil* (2014) and *Eternal Stories* (2017). Their ease in blending different styles creates a dynamic energy that enriches all aspects of their artistic work — a versatility that has been warmly embraced by audiences and critics alike from the beginning.

Ébène Quartet's albums featuring Bartók, Beethoven, Debussy, Haydn, Fauré and the Mendelssohn siblings have received much acclaim, including awards from Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine and the Midem Classic Award. In 2015 & 2016, the musicians dedicated themselves to the theme of the "Lied", seen through their collaboration with Philippe Jaroussky on the album *Green (Mélodies françaises)*. For their Schubert album, they collaborated with Matthias Goerne (featuring *Lied* arrangements for string quartet, baritone, and double bass by Raphaël Merlin) and with Gautier Capuçon (for the String Quintet in C major, D 956).

Together with Antoine Tamestit, Ébène Quartet recorded Mozart's string quintets K. 515 and K. 516, released in spring 2023. The album was honored with awards such as *Choc de Classica*, *Diapason d'Or*, and *Gramophone's Recording of the Month*.

A major milestone in their career was the complete recording of Beethoven's 16 string quartets. Between May 2019 and January 2020, the quartet recorded this cycle across six continents in a globe-spanning project. With this achievement, the four French musicians celebrated their 20th anniversary as a quartet, crowned with complete Beethoven cycles in leading venues such as the Philharmonie de Paris and Alte Oper Frankfurt. Their schedule also included appearances at Carnegie Hall in New York, the Verbier Festival, and the Wiener Konzerthaus.


To mark the 40th anniversary of Suntory Hall, the quartet is set to present the complete Beethoven string quartet works in Tokyo. They will also begin new Beethoven cycles at venues including the Berlin Philharmonie, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome, and Wigmore Hall in London.

Pierre Colombet, violin

Gabriel Le Magadure, violin

Hélène Clément, viola

Yuya Okamoto, cello

Watch  [Quatuor Ébène – Beethoven: String Quartet No. 12 in E-Flat Major, Op. 127](#)

## **ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES**

San Francisco Performances has been a leader in the Bay Area cultural scene since our founding in 1979. With a strong curatorial vision and adventurous programming, we are the city's premier presenter of intimate concerts and solo performances.

We have introduced hundreds of established and emerging classical music, jazz, and dance artists to audiences, including Yo-Yo Ma, the Juilliard String Quartet, Philip Glass, Wendy Whelan, and the Paul Taylor Dance Company. We also champion a new generation, committed to building a contemporary and equitable repertoire. Performers like the Catalyst Quartet, violinist Jennifer Koh, tenor Lawrence Brownlee, and pianist/composer Vijay Iyer are moving their art into the present and future, making it accessible to younger audiences while converting many traditionalists to new possibilities. They represent the path forward.

Quality, intimacy, and connection are the hallmarks of San Francisco Performances. We nurture unique relationships with today's best artists to create an accessible, warm, and engaging arts experience.

### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

*(Please include [our name as the presenter](#) --many thanks!)*

## **SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

### **ÉBÈNE QUARTET**

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 16, 2026, 7:30pm

**WHERE:** Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue (at McAllister), San Francisco

**PROGRAM:** **BEETHOVEN:** String Quartet in G Major, Opus 18, No. 2; **DEBUSSY:** String Quartet in G Minor; **BRAHMS:** String Quartet in A Minor, Opus 51, No. 2

**CONCERT TICKETS:** \$80/\$70/\$60

**CONTACT:** (415) 392.2545; [sfperformances.org](https://sfperformances.org)

For high-resolution images, contact Terry Conway at [terry@sfperformances.org](mailto:terry@sfperformances.org)  
or [click here](#)

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