

Master's Student Recital at Barnett Hall
January 10, 2024
11:00 a.m.

Daniel Tsui, violin

String Quartet No. 4 in C Minor, Op. 18, No. 4 i. Allegro ma non tanto	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)
String Quartet No. 5 in A Major, Op. 18, No. 5 iii. Andante cantabile	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)
String Quartet No. 3 in D Major, Op. 18, No. 3 iv. Presto	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)

- intermission -

String Quartet No. 4 in C Minor, Op. 18, No. 4 iv. Allegro	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)
String Quartet No. 1 in F Major, Op. 18, No. 1 ii. Affettuoso ed appassionato	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)
String Quartet No. 9 in C Major, Op. 59, No. 3 ("Rasumovsky") iii. Menuetto (Grazioso) iv. Allegro molto	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770 – 1827)

Daniel Tsui, violin I
Samuel Tsui, violin II
Manti Poon, viola
Minjee Yoon, cello

This recital is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the
Master of Music degree, majoring in Violin Performance.

*We gratefully acknowledge that we are gathered together for this performance on the
traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x̱m̱əθḵʷəy̱əm (Musqueam) people.*



PROGRAM NOTES by Daniel Tsui

January 10, 2024 | 11:00 AM

Barnett Hall

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Born December 17, 1770; Bonn, Germany

Died March 26, 1827; Vienna, Austria

Six String Quartets, Op. 18 & Three String Quartets 'Rasumovsky', Op. 59

In celebration of 254 years of Ludwig van Beethoven's works, the opus 18 string quartets, composed between 1798 and 1800 in Vienna were dedicated to Prince Lobkowitz.¹ Lobkowitz was a well-known supporter of Beethoven's works, granting annuity for Beethoven himself and for the composition of the critically acclaimed 'Eroica' Symphony.² The six String Quartets op.18 were seen as Beethoven's most "ambitious" project yet after the completion of the three String Trios op.9. With an unpublished copy of the first few op.18 quartets given in the late summer of 1799 to Karl Amenda as a departing gift for Amenda "as a small memorial of [their] friendship." Amenda was a tutor to Lobkowitz's children and was an "inseparable" friend to Beethoven.³

During the composition of the six String Quartets, Beethoven began to show signs of "dissatisfaction" with some formal aspects of the Classical style in the early Vienna period.⁴ Beethoven reveals rich interplay of melody, harmony and expression throughout these quartets.

The Rasumovsky Quartets, composed in 1806 in Vienna, dedicated to Count Rasumovsky, embodies the musical ideas of heroism influenced by the 'Eroica' Symphony. These quartets were met with "resistance" from players and audiences for the "straining" of the medium due to the radicalization of traditional conventions and limitations of the string quartet genre.⁵

¹ Joseph Kerman, Alan Tyson, Scott G. Burnham, Douglas Johnson, and William Drabkin, "Beethoven, Ludwig van," Grove Music Online, 2001, accessed 10 Jan. 2024, <https://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/grovemusic/view/10.1093/gmo/9781561592630.001.0001/omo-9781561592630-e-0000040026>.

² Milan Pořtolka, and William Meredith, "Lobkowitz, Joseph Franz Maximilian," Grove Music Online, 2001, accessed 10 Jan. 2024, <https://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/grovemusic/view/10.1093/gmo/9781561592630.001.0001/omo-9781561592630-e-90000381122>.

³ Kerman, Tyson, Burnham, Johnson, and Drabkin, "Beethoven, Ludwig van."

⁴ Kerman, Tyson, Burnham, Johnson, and Drabkin, "Beethoven, Ludwig van."

⁵ Kerman, Tyson, Burnham, Johnson, and Drabkin, "Beethoven, Ludwig van."