



For Immediate Release

**MUSIC AT KOHL MANSION PRESENTS
AMERICAN STRING QUARTET, SUNDAY, MAY 1 AT 7 P.M.
PERFORMING CHAMBER MUSIC OF HAYDN, BARBER, WALKER & BRAHMS**
"Luxurious, beautifully sculptured performances" — *The New York Times*



Tickets Now on Sale; musicatkohl.org or Call (650) 762-1130.

BURLINGAME, CA (April 15, 2022) — Music at Kohl Mansion (MAKM) will conclude the current 39th anniversary season with one of the world's preeminent chamber music ensembles, the **American String Quartet**, on Sunday, May 1 at 7 p.m. The curated program will feature musical works by **Franz Joseph Haydn**, Quartet in D Major, Op. 76, No. 5, *Largo*; **Samuel Barber**, Adagio from String Quartet, Op. 11; **George Walker**, Lament from String Quartet No. 1, *Lyric*; and **Johannes Brahms**, Quartet in A Minor, Op. 51, No. 2.

The highly distinguished musicians of the American String Quartet are **Peter Winograd**, violin; **Laurie Carney**, violin; **Daniel Avshalomov**, viola; and **Wolfram Koessel**, cello.

Internationally recognized as one of the world's finest quartets, the American String Quartet has spent decades honing the luxurious sound for which it is famous. The Quartet is currently celebrating their 48th anniversary, and, in its years of touring, has performed in the most important concert halls throughout the world. The ensemble has been the resident string quartet at the Aspen Music Festival since 1974, and beginning in 1984, at the Manhattan School of Music.

Over the years of touring, the American String Quartet has received impressive critical acclaim, including:

"The American String Quartet's program was, simply put, a comprehensive display of ensemble mastery, of passion, precision and interpretive smarts in near perfect synchrony." — *The Los Angeles Times*

"The finesse, the thoughtfulness and depth of the performance could not be surpassed." — *Berliner Morgenpost*

"If you are going to call yourself the American String Quartet, you need to be able to live up to your name.... I cannot think of another U.S. ensemble capable of making recordings as sustainably stylish and beautiful as these." — *The Strad*

"String quartet recordings don't get much better than this." — *American Record Guide*

The group's presentations of the complete quartets of Beethoven, Schubert, Schoenberg, Bartók, and Mozart have won widespread critical acclaim, and their MusicMasters Complete Mozart String Quartets, performed on a matched quartet set of instruments by Stradivarius, are widely considered to have set the standard for this repertoire.

Recent seasons featured performances of the American String Quartet's major project together with the National Book Award-winning author **Phil Klay** and the poet **Tom Sleigh**, which offers a groundbreaking program combining music and readings that examines the effects of war. The Quartet also collaborated with the renowned author **Salman Rushdie** in a work for narrator and quartet by the film composer **Paul Cantelon** built around Rushdie's novel *The Enchantress of Florence*. These tremendously imaginative collaborations cement the American String Quartet's reputation as one of the most adventurous and fearless string quartets performing today, as comfortable with the groundbreaking as with the traditional.

The Quartet's diverse activities have also included numerous international radio and television broadcasts, including a recent recording for the BBC; tours of Asia; and performances with the New York City Ballet, the Montreal Symphony, and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Recent highlights include performances of an all-sextet program with Roberto and Andrès Díaz, many tours of South America, and performances of the complete Beethoven cycle of string quartets at the Cervantes Festival in Mexico and the Tel Aviv Museum in Israel.

The American String Quartet's extensive discography can be heard on the Albany, CRI, MusicMasters, Musical Heritage Society, Nonesuch, and RCA labels. Most recently the group released "Schubert's Echo," which pairs Schubert's monumental last quartet with works bearing its influence by Second Viennese masters Alban Berg and Anton Webern. This repertoire posits that the creative line from the First to the Second Viennese Schools is continuous – and evident when these works are heard in the context of each other.

As champions of new music, the American String Quartet has given numerous premieres, including George Tsontakis's Quartet No. 7.5, "Maverick," Richard Danielpour's Quartet No. 4, and Curt Cacioppo's *a distant voice calling*. The premiere of Robert Sirota's *American Pilgrimage* was performed around the U.S. in the cities the work celebrates. The Quartet premiered Tobias Picker's String Quartet No. 2 in New York City in celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Manhattan School of Music.

Single tickets for the American String Quartet performance on May 1 at 7 p.m. are \$52 (General), \$49 (Senior) and \$22 (age 30 and under). To purchase tickets, visit www.musicatkohl.org or call Music at Kohl Mansion Box Office, (650) 762-1130.

Music at Kohl Mansion continues its longstanding association with the **San Mateo Public Library** and will present free to the public "A Musical Conversation with the American String Quartet" on Saturday, April 30, from 3 to 4 p.m. The San Mateo Public Library is located at 55 West 3rd Avenue.

All MAKM audience members will be asked to show proof of full COVID-19 vaccination, including a booster shot if eligible, prior to entry to the live concert. MAKM staff and members of the public are required to wear a facial covering at all times while indoors. In order to allow for social distancing, Music at Kohl management has reduced its indoor seating to a maximum of 60% of capacity. Convenient public hand sanitizing stations are provided.

All programs, artists and COVID-19 health and safety protocols are subject to change. Music at Kohl Mansion is located at 2750 Adeline Drive, Burlingame. For more information, visit www.musicatkohl.org.

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For Photos of MAKM Season Artists, visit <https://musicatkohl.org/for-press/>