



## QUATUOR DANEL 2017-18 BIOGRAPHY

**“... the Quatuor Danel plays with warmth and conviction.” – *The Boston Globe***

The Quatuor Danel has been at the forefront of the European music scene since its founding in 1991, with major concert performances worldwide and a number of groundbreaking recordings which have won many important international awards. The Quartet made its American debut during the 2015-16 season, featuring concerts at New York’s Frick Collection and the Clarice Smith in College Park, MD, as well as at series across the country. Its follow-up April 2017 tour took the Quartet to San Francisco, Montreal, and Washington, D.C.

The ensemble is famous for its bold, concentrated interpretations of the string quartet cycles of Haydn, Beethoven, Schubert, Shostakovich, and Weinberg. Their lively and fresh vision of traditional quartet repertoire has won them lavish praise from both the public and the press. In addition, Russian composers have a vital place in the Quatuor Danel’s repertoire: they have championed the string quartets of Shostakovich, and their recently reissued recording of the complete cycle is considered one of the benchmark interpretations of these quartets.

Over the past three years the Quatuor Danel has recorded the previously unknown quartet oeuvre of Mieczyslaw Weinberg, the neglected contemporary of Shostakovich, for the CD label CPO. The Quartet will continue to offer this breathtakingly beautiful repertoire in coming seasons. In addition, they have collaborated with major contemporary composers such as Wolfgang Rihm, Helmut Lachenmann, Sofia Gubaidulina, Pascal Dusapin, and the stars of the younger generation including Jörg Widmann and Bruno Mantovani.

In addition to their advocacy for Russian music, the Quatuor Danel has a particular passion for teaching young musicians in general and string quartets in particular. Teaching, outreach, and master classes are a fundamental part of their activities. The Quartet has been artist-in-residence at the University of Manchester since 2005, working closely with the students and also with musicologists Barry Cooper and David Fanning.

The Quartet’s upcoming concerts will take them to the major halls in Brussels, Amsterdam, Moscow, Paris, London, Madrid, Vienna, Berlin, Beijing, Tokyo, and New York. The Quatuor Danel is a regular guest at the major European festivals, and in the summer of 2016 made its North American debut at the Ottawa ChamberFest. Upcoming recording projects consist of the three Tchaikovsky quartets, the Quartet and Piano Quintet by Franck and a longer-term project combining all the string quartets of Haydn with late Beethoven.



**June 2017 – Please do not edit without permission.**

The Quatuor Danel is sponsored by SPEDIDAM

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