

MERITA

Music cultural hERitage TAlent

MERITA is an online and offline platform that increases the visibility and circulation of European string quartets by innovating and improving the sustainability of the music industry, increasing access and participation in cultural activities, promoting European cultural heritage, strengthening connections between local and European culture and between online and offline engagement.

Winner of the **Creative Europe – European Platforms 2021** and co-funded by the European Union, **MERITA** is a project by Le Dimore del Quartetto (Milan, Italy), run together with **16 cultural institutions** from other **11 European countries**.

The project's development lasts **3 years** and involves **38 string quartets** for a total of **152 artists**.

Through the digital platform, **MERITA** showcases artists, presents cultural sites and historic houses, educational materials, networking and content for the public, panel of online and on-site activities, i.e. training, artistic residencies, transnational and international circulation of young artists, studies and research.

The platform also allows new audiences to be brought closer to classical music and places of historical interest. It aims to become a reference point for chamber musicians and practitioners, forming the basis for a new and lasting business model.

www.meritaplatform.eu



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CONCERT

Saturday, May 4h at 4 pm

Castle Knezice, Petrovice u Susice

SKAZKA QUARTET, THE NETHERLANDS

Lena ter Schegget, violin
Dmitry Ivanov, violin

Lisa Eggen, viola
Emma Besselaar, cello

L. van Beethoven (1770 - 1827) - String quartet op. 131 in c-sharp minor

I. Adagio ma non troppo et molto espressivo

II. Allegro molto vivace

III. Allegro moderato - Adagio - Piu vivace

IV. Andante ma non troppo et molto cantabile

V. Presto

VI. Allegro quasi un poco andante

VII. Allegro

L. van Beethoven (1770 - 1827) - String quartet op. 18, n. 6 in B-flat major

I. Allegro con brio

II. Adagio ma non troppo

III. Scherzo: Allegro

IV. La Malinconia: Adagio – Allegretto quasi Allegro



SKAZKA QUARTET

The Skazka Kwartet was founded in 2020 in the Netherlands. The current formation was established in March 2022.

A few months later, in May 2022, they were the winners of the 2022 Storioni Competition and as such they will make their debut in a few major Dutch venues this season. In season 2022/23 Skazka Kwartet will appear in venues such as TivoliVredenburg, De Doelen, and at the Storioni Festival 2023.

The quartet performed live on Dutch Classical Radio 4 in the programme Spiegelzaal, where they will return this season.

Since 2020 they have been studying at the Dutch String Quartet Academy, following lessons with artistic leader Marc Danel and guest teachers such as Pierre Colombet (Quatuor Ébène) and Luc- Marie Aguera (former Quatuor Ysaÿe). They took part in masterclasses with amongst others Heime Müller (former Artemis Quartett), Mathieu Herzog (former Quatuor Ébène) and members of the Jerusalem Quartet.

The quartet is grateful to the Dutch Musical Instrument Foundation (NMF) for Dmitry's bow, Lisa's viola and Emma's cello.

BEYOND A CONCERT EXPERIENCE

String Quartets turning concert hall into (multimedia) theater

The project develops on how to present the classical music repertoire in a different manner than standard chamber music concerts. Putting the concerts in the form of a theater play, using a special scenography, lights, costumes, and even a real theater direction, and making the string quartet musicians the main narrators: telling a story can give a new experience for the audience. String quartet will work with theater directors, scenographers, and playwrights, to suggest possible ideas and solutions for implementing aspects of theater play into a concert performance.

CASTLE KNEZICE

The Knezice Castle firstly built in 16th century was rebuilt to a baroque chateau at the beginning of the 18th century.

In the year 1906, the baroque chateau was redesigned in art nouveau style by architect Leopold Bauer, the student Otto Wagner, and his successor in 1913 as professor of modern architecture at Vienna Academy of fine Arts.

Knezice Castle organizes classic concerts, salons with different topics – music, literature, architecture and philosophy. The complex projects is Art Nouveau & Now, where they focus on art nouveau from different perspectives and connect this period with contemporary; Beethoven & Now – Beethoven's Piano sonatas and Schubert&Now – op.100 as an inspiration of czech, swiss and german contemporary composers. As a part of the community they hold the Easter and Christmas markets with Czech folk traditions and with medieval European music and dances. Castle Knezice is presented as part of European cultural heritage and connect the topics and its explanations to diverse audience as a place of importance of cultural heritage in the past, present and future.