



## Sacconi Quartet

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at 7.30 pm  
Cavendish Hall, Edensor

Entr'acte

C.A. SHAW  
(1982-)

String Quartet Op. 64, No. 2 in B minor

*Allegro spiritoso*  
*Adagio ma non troppo*  
*Menuet & Trio: Allegretto*  
*Finale: Presto*

F.J. HAYDN  
(1732-1809)

*Interval of 20 minutes*

Strum

J. MONTGOMERY  
(1981-)

String Quartet No. 14 in D minor, D810 'Death and the Maiden' F.P. SCHUBERT

*Allegro*  
*Andante con moto*  
*Scherzo: Allegro molto*  
*Presto*

(1797-1828)

### Sacconi Quartet

*Ben Hancox (Violin I)*  
*Robin Ashwell (Viola)*

*Hannah Dawson (Violin II)*  
*Cara Berridge (Cello)*

The name Sacconi Quartet comes from the outstanding twentieth-century Italian luthier and restorer Simone Sacconi, whose book *The Secrets of Stradivari* is considered an indispensable reference for violin makers. For twenty years, the Sacconi Quartet have been captivating audiences with their unanimous and compelling ensemble, consistently communicating with a fresh and imaginative approach. Performing with style and commitment, the quartet are known throughout the world for their creativity and integrity of interpretation. Formed in 2001, the four founder members continue to demonstrate a shared passion for string quartet repertoire, infectiously reaching out to audiences with their energy and enthusiasm. The Sacconi enjoy a busy international career, performing regularly across the world, at Europe's major venues, in recordings and on radio broadcasts. The Sacconi are Quartet in Association at the Royal College of Music and Quartet in Residence in Folkestone. 2023 will see the fifteenth Sacconi Chamber Music Festival in Folkestone, which is now firmly established among the UK's major chamber music festivals and attracts audiences from far and near for its vibrant atmosphere and dynamic programming.

In November the Sacconi celebrated twenty years of playing together, with a celebration birthday concert at Wigmore Hall. Firm advocates of new music, the programme featured the world premiere of their latest piece from Jonathan Dove, *On the Streets and In the Sky*. Over the last year they have also premiered Graham Fitkin's *Loosening* for saxophone and quartet (commissioned by the Sacconi), Nicola LeFanu's *String Quintet* and Robin Holloway's *second Clarinet Quintet* with Mark Simpson). They also continue to tour with *Beethoven in the Dark*, their immersive performance of Beethoven's op.131 quartet entirely from memory, in almost complete darkness.

Ben Hancox plays a 1932 Sacconi violin, and Robin Ashwell a 1934 Sacconi viola, both made in New York. Hannah Dawson plays a 1927 Sacconi violin made in Rome, and Cara Berridge plays a Nicolaus Gagliano cello from 1781. Ben, Hannah & Cara have all been generously loaned these instruments by the Royal Society of Musicians, for which they are extremely grateful. Robin is indebted to Ellen Solomon for the use of his viola.

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