

Ilkley Concert Club Afternoon Concerts
Thursday 5 December 2024

Cedar String Quartet

Jack Callaghan violin **Archie Freeman** violin
Xavier Williams viola **Maya Tucker** cello

Claude Debussy 1862 - 1918
Arabesque No. 1
Antandino con moto

Florence Price 1887 - 1953
String Quartet No. 2 in A minor
ii andante cantabile

Franz Schubert 1797 - 1828
Quartettsatz in C minor D703

Ludwig van Beethoven 1770 - 1827
String Quartet No. 10 in E flat major Op. 74
i poco adagio, allegro
ii adagio ma non troppo
iii presto
Iv allegretto con variazioni

*The students appear by kind permission of
the Royal Northern College of Music*

Cedar String Quartet

The **Cedar Quartet** came together at the beginning of their music studies at the RNCM and has received coaching from some of the world's leading chamber musicians, including Donald Grant (Elias String Quartet) Henk Guittart (Schoenberg Quartet) and Pavel Fischer (Skampa Quartet). Recently the Cedar Quartet were awarded a bursary to take part in the Chilingirian String Ensemble Course at West Dean College for a period of intensive tutoring.

Jack Callaghan, violinist from Manchester, entered the Junior RNCM at the age of 4 and has progressed to studying with Yuri Torchinsky, enjoying the many opportunities in the undergraduate course for solo and quartet playing.

Archie Freeman, violinist from Sussex and a family with little experience of classical music but at the RNCM has developed a passion for the intimacy and power of small-scale instrumental ensembles.

Xavier Williams, from Bedfordshire, was inspired after watching his first classical concert at the age of six to learn the violin, later he added cello lessons but has now settled on the viola and indulges his love of chamber music with the Cedar Quartet.

Maya Tucker, cellist from South London, came to the RNCM for her undergraduate degree after playing in the Bromley Youth Music Trust orchestras and chamber groups. She is looking forward to completing her third year on the BBC Philharmonic Professional Experience Scheme and plays on a 19th century cello loaned from Benslow Scheme.

In their time playing together a particular highlight was the preparation of a Mendelssohn Quartet gaining Highly Commended in the Nossek Prize, where Donald Grant commented on their 'very beautiful and hugely promising performance'. In addition the Cedar Quartet have performed in concerts around Manchester, including Alderley Edge, the Whitworth Gallery, and a pre-concert recital at the Bridgewater Hall alongside the BBC Philharmonic, playing the works of Smetana, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and more.

