



## AWARD-WINNING DOVER QUARTET PERFORMS PARTS 5 & 6 OF COMPLETE BEETHOVEN CYCLE AT JORGENSEN

Part 5 - Tues, Apr 25, 2017 at 7:30 pm / Part 6 - Thurs, Apr 27, 2017 at 7:30 pm  
Concert Talk both evenings at 6:45 pm

UConn's Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is pleased to announce the return of the award-winning Dover Quartet to perform Parts 5 and 6 of the 6-part complete Beethoven Quartet Cycle, comprising all 18 of the composer's works for string quartet spread throughout Jorgensen's 2016/2017 concert season. Having completed Parts 1 through 4 in previous Jorgensen appearances, the Quartet will take the Jorgensen stage for Part 5 of the Cycle on Thursday evening, April 25, and again on Thursday evening, April 27 for Part 6. Each performance will begin at 7:30 pm and will be preceded by a free Concert Talk at 6:45 pm by Dr. Glenn Stanley of the UConn Department of Music.

The Dover Quartet's Part 5 program for April 25 will begin with *Quartet in A Major, Op. 18, No. 5*, one of the last in a group of six quartets Beethoven composed in his "early" style. The opus 18 quartets, published in 1801, represent a period in Beethoven's life which is generally considered to be his happiest. The fifth of the set owes much to Mozart's *String Quartet in A major, K. 464*. For example, Beethoven modeled the slow variation movement directly on the analogous movement in Mozart's quartet. The influence of Beethoven's teacher Haydn is also in evidence, in particular in its frolicking and carefree opening movement followed by a graceful minuet occasionally interrupted by the composer's whimsical sense of humor.

The Part 5 program will conclude with *Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 130*, with the *Grosse Fuge* (Great Fugue), *Op. 133*. At the first performance of the B-flat Major quartet in 1826, other movements were received enthusiastically but the final movement, the *Grosse Fuge*, was not. To please critics and his publisher, Beethoven agreed to write a new finale. However, since the beginning of the 20th century, critical opinion of the *Grosse Fuge* has risen steadily and the work, numbered as *Op. 133* is now considered among Beethoven's greatest achievements. Numerous quartets prefer to perform *Op. 130* with the *Grosse Fuge*.

For their part 6 program on April 27, the Dover Quartet has chosen to begin with Beethoven's *Quartet in F Major, Op. 135*, Beethoven's last string quartet as well as his last complete opus in any genre. Finished in October of 1826, only months before his death in March of 1827, the quartet in F Major represents the final work of the greatest cycle of string quartets in history.

Next, The Dover will present Beethoven's *Quartet in C Minor, Op. 18, No. 4*, the last of the six *Op. 18* quartets written at the end of the composer's "early period". The quartet is unique for being the only one of the *Op. 18* set to be written in a minor key.

Concluding the Part 6 program will be Beethoven's *Quartet in E Minor, Op. 59, No. 2*, one of three quartets commissioned by Russian ambassador Count Andreas Razumovsky, who asked

### Quick Reference

**Classical Music Event**  
Beethoven Cycle, Parts 5 & 6  
Presented by Dover Quartet

**Date**  
Tues, Apr 25, 7:30 pm  
Thurs, Apr 27, 7:30 pm

**Place**  
Jorgensen Center  
for the Performing Arts  
2132 Hillside Road  
UConn campus, Storrs, CT

**Tickets**  
\$32, \$36

**Box Office**  
860.486.4226  
Mon–Fri, 10 am–5 pm

The Box Office window is also open for walk-up ticket sales 90 minutes before showtime.

### For Immediate Release

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
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## DOVER QUARTET / BEETHOVEN CYCLE 5-6, continued

the composer to employ a Russian theme in the compositions; a request which Beethoven honored by inserting elements of Russian folk songs in all three of the “Razumovsky” Quartets.

Composed of violinists Joel Link and Bryan Lee, violist Milena Pajaro-van de Stadt, and cellist Camden Shaw, the Dover Quartet was named as Cleveland Quartet Award winner for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 seasons, and the group was awarded the Avery Fisher Career Grant in March 2017. The Quartet has just released its debut recording, featuring three works by Mozart: his two final string quartets and the Quintet in C minor. Released on the Cedille label, the program recalls the 1965 debut album of the Guarneri Quartet, whose founding violist, Michael Tree, joins the Dover Quartet on the recording. Also this season, over the course of six concerts in each of three cities, the group will undertake complete Beethoven quartet cycles for the first time. In Buffalo, NY, the Quartet performs in the University at Buffalo’s famous “Slee Cycle,” which has presented annual Beethoven quartet cycles since 1955 and has featured the likes of the Budapest, Guarneri, and Cleveland Quartets. The other two cycles will be performed at the University of Connecticut and the Montreal Chamber Music Festival; during the Montreal residency, the group also plays Mendelssohn’s Octet with the winners of the 2016 Banff International String Quartet Competition– the competition at which they themselves took the Grand Prize and all three Special Prizes in 2013. Rounding out the Quartet’s season are a five-city U.S. tour with bassist-composer Edgar Meyer, playing Mozart, Rossini, Dvorák, and Meyer’s own Quintet for Strings; a tour of the West Coast with mandolinist Avi Avital, playing music by Bach, Smetana, Sulkhan Tsintsadze, and David Bruce; and a tour of Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, debuting in every city with programs including Beethoven, Schubert, Smetana, Britten, Barber, and Caroline Shaw.

For more information about The Dover Quartet please visit [www.doverquartet.com](http://www.doverquartet.com).

Jorgensen was voted Best College or University Performing Arts Center in the *Hartford Courant’s* CTNow, as well as *Connecticut Magazine’s* Best of Performing Arts Venues (College) for 2016. Established in December of 1955, Jorgensen has grown to become the largest college-based presenting program in New England. Each season Jorgensen enriches the lives of students, faculty, staff, and area residents with 30 to 35 diverse performances from nationally and internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles ranging from classical music to world music and dance, classical ballet and contemporary dance, comedy, family programming, and contemporary entertainment. Dedicated to University of Connecticut president Albert N. Jorgensen, Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts continues to follow his vision of the University as the state’s educational and cultural leader.

Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts is located at 2132 Hillside Road on the UConn campus in Storrs. Tickets are available now online. Prices are: Floor Seats - \$36; Mezzanine - \$32; Students & Youth Under 18 - All seats \$15.

For tickets and information, call the Box Office at 860.486.4226, Monday through Friday, 10 am - 5 pm, and 90 minutes prior to events, or order online at [jorgensen.uconn.edu](http://jorgensen.uconn.edu). Convenient \$5 event parking is available in the North Garage. Free parking is available in Lots 9, F, and L. For a detailed parking map, go to [park.uconn.edu](http://park.uconn.edu).