



Course details

Course title

Music Making: The String Quartet

Course code

Q00021010

Course date

Start: 16/01/25

End: 20/03/25

Number of classes

8 sessions

Timetable

Thu 16th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 23rd Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 30th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 6th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 20th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 27th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 6th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 20th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Tutor

David Roberts

Fee:

Free

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

Venue

Quaker Meeting House (Newcastle-Under-Ly
Earl House
2 Miller Street
Newcastle-Under-Lyme
ST5 1QJ

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

This eight week course will trace the history of the classical string quartet and its music. The standard instruments of a string quartet have remained unchanged since the eighteenth century and the equal-terms principle has been its hallmark. In composers such as Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert we can experience the development of this genre of chamber music. A wealth of supreme quartets exists for the listener to explore and appreciate from the classical period to the present day. There will be an opportunity to hear live music played by a string quartet during the course of the eight weeks.

Course description

This course will trace the history of the string quartet and its music. The standard instruments of a string quartet have remained unchanged since the eighteenth century and the equal-terms principle has been its hallmark. In composers such as Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert we can experience the development of this genre of chamber music. String quartet music provides a medium of the expression of intimate ideas and does not depend for its effects on splashes of colour or great virtuoso display. The composer's intentions are able to shine through. A wealth of supreme quartets exists for the listener to explore and appreciate from the classical period to the present day.

During the course you will discover the essential elements of a string quartet, its instruments and playing techniques, be able to name examples of famous quartets with titles, know when the string quartet first emerged and identify with confidence the differing styles. We will study the early classical quartets and listen to examples from the romantic, modern and contemporary period. Examples of compositions calling for larger string numbers such as quintet, sextets and octets will also feature during the course.

There will also be an opportunity to hear a string quartet playing live examples during the course of the eight weeks.

What financial support is available?

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

What other support is available?

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

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