

Dramatic, colorful Brentano string quartet to perform Oct. 17 in UCSD's Mandeville Auditorium

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DRAMATIC, COLORFUL BRENTANO STRING QUARTET TO PERFORM OCT. 17 IN UCSD'S MANDEVILLE AUDITORIUM

Described by one critic as having the "timing of a great dramatic actor" and another as producing "sounds that evoke a Jackson Pollock painting," New York's versatile Brentano String Quartet will perform in concert at 8 p.m. Oct. 17 in Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

"Using their extraordinarily secure technique, these four players (go) far beyond mere mastery of the musical details to produce powerful dramatic experiences," writes the *Virginian Pilot*. "They (do) this through careful timing the kind of timing that a great dramatic actor has."

The *New York Times*, reviewing a concert in a contemporary vein, writes: "This group's vivid account took on an almost visual quality. If you stopped concentrating on musical syntax, the sounds evoked the seemingly chaotic squiggles, slashing lines and bursts of color of a Jackson Pollock painting."

Noted both for championing new works and exploring literature's classics, the Brentano String Quartet will kick off the 1999-2000 Robert and Sonia Hamburger Family Endowment Chamber Music Series at UCSD.

Ensemble members are Mark Steinberg and Serena Canin, violin; Misha Amory, viola, and Nina Maria Lee, cello. Their Oct. 17 program will include Schumann: String Quartet in A minor, Opus 41, No. 1; Tan Dun: Eight Colors, and Mozart: String Quartet in G Major, K. 387.

"These players could well be the best of the latest generation," writes the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. "Their level of individual technique (is) superb, while musical dialog necessary for rich chamber music (is) evident from first to last."

The Brentano String Quartet was formed in 1992. Though members hold degrees from a variety of institutions, a common bond is that each also received either bachelor's or master's degree from Juilliard School of Music in New York. The quartet took the name Brentano after Antonie Brentano, whom scholars believe to have been Beethoven's mysterious "immortal beloved" to whom he wrote a famous love confession.

Among the quartet's awards are the Cleveland Quartet Award, the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, the Martin E. Segal Award and, at its first appearance in Great Britain at Wigmore Hall, the group received the Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award for the most outstanding chamber music debut. It also was chosen by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center to participate in the inaugural season of Chamber Music Society Two, a program recognizing outstanding emerging artists on the verge of international careers in chamber music.

The Brentano has appeared in major music centers in North America including Alice Tully Hall in New York, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pittsburgh's Frick Museum, the La Jolla Chamber Music Society, the Chamber Music Society of Detroit, the Ford Centre for the Performing Arts in Toronto, and venues in Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Houston, New Orleans, Kansas City and Boston. It has appeared in summer music festival in the United States, England and France, and has performed in various venues in Australia, including the Sydney Opera House. Currently, the quartet is in residence at Wigmore Hall, New York University and Princeton University.

"The Brentano String Quartet (has) made an irresistible case for itself," writes the New York Times. "Its players ... produce a magnificently blended sound with a remarkable coloristic range."

Tickets for the Brentano String Quartet are \$22 general admission reserved seating and \$10 for students for advanced reserved seating, \$5 for students at the door. Tickets are available at the UCSD Box Office, 534-8497, and at Ticketmaster outlets at 220-8497. Parking is free on weekends. The concert is sponsored by the UCSD University Events Office. For information on the entire season of events sponsored by the University Events Office, visit the website, <http://ueo.ucsd.edu>, or call the UCSD University Events Office at 534-4090.

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