

Czechoslovakia's Prague Quartet to perform at UCSD

August 6, 1965

Czechoslovakia's famed Prague String Quartet, currently on its first tour outside of Europe, is scheduled to perform at 8:30 P-m- Wednesday, August 18" in Sherwood Hall, La Jolla.

The La Jolla concert is sponsored by the University of California, San Diego Committee for Arts and Lectures. Reserved seat tickets are \$3.00 for the general public and \$1.00 for UCSD students. Tickets are now on sale and are available, by mail, from the Committee for Arts and Lectures, Box 109, La Jolla, California.

The quartet was formed in 1920 by four leading members of the string section of the Ljubljana Orchestra and, with changing membership, has performed continuously since then. The current tour will take the quartet to South America, Mexico, California,, Hawaii and Australia.

The quartet made its headquarters in Prague in 1921. During its early years it took several different names but, since 1929, has retained its present title. The membership has changed several times and in 1951 only one of the original four members, Ladislav Cerny, remained.

The present quartet is composed of Bretislav Novotny, first violin, Karel Pribyl, second violin, Jaroslav Karlovsky, alto and Zdenek Konicek, violoncello. The group, following the tradition of Czech concert art, has achieved a leading place among Czech ensembles. Following a resounding success in international competition at Liege in 1958, the members were relieved of their orchestral commitments in order to devote themselves wholly to chamber music. Their work and their tours through western and eastern Germany, Austria, Belgium, Italy, Yugoslavia, Denmark, Spain, Greece and Holland have placed the Prague Quartet among the ranks of the internationally known quartets of today.

The Prague Quartet is a highly musical group of four genuine, ardent musicians who have distinguished themselves not merely by the technical mastery of their performance but to an even greater degree by their style, tone, phrasing and dynamic flexibility.

Bretislav Novotny, born in 1924, studied at the Prague Conservatory. He is well known as a soloist and has served as guest artist at the Prague International Festival and on the radio and records. Karel Pribyl, born in 1931, studied at the Academy of Musical Arts in Prague. He is a leading soloist with the National Theatre and soloist for the Czechoslovak Radio.

Jaroslav Karlovsky, born in 1925, studied at the Prague Conservatory. He has served as soloist and guest artist at the Prague International Festival and on the radio and records. Zdenek Konicek, born in 1918, studied at the Conservatory Bratislava. He has served as soloist with the Prague Symphony Orchestra.

In the La Jolla concert, the program will consist of: Schubert Quartet No. 10 in E Flat Major, Opus 125, No. 1; Janacek Quartet No. 2 (Intimate Letters); and Smetana Quartet in E Minor (From My Life).