

Grammy award-winning Emerson Spring Quartet to perform at UCSD

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GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING EMERSON STRING QUARTET TO PERFORM AT UCSD

The Grammy award-winning Emerson String Quartet will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 12 in Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego to begin the 22nd season of the UCSD Chamber Music Series.

The Emerson String Quartet has received Grammys for both classical and chamber music, has been recognized by Gramophone magazine with record of the year awards, and appears regularly at major chamber series and musical festivals throughout the world. This season's concert tour is taking them to venues in Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Cleveland, Toronto, Houston, Miami, and Seattle, as well as to cities in England, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, France, and Israel.

Members of the group are violinists Eugene Drucker and Philip Setzer who alternate in the first chair position, violist Lawrence Dutton, and cellist David Finckel. The program for the Oct. 12 concert will include Schumann: Quartet in F Major, Op. 41, No. 2; Ned Rorem Quartet, and Beethoven: Quartet in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2.

The ensemble is dedicated to the performance of a classical repertoire, but also has a commitment to the commissioning and performance of contemporary music and a reputation for approaching both with mastery and enthusiasm.

In 1987, the Emersons signed a recording contract with Deutsche Grammophon which brought the release of their Grammy Award-winning recording of Bartok's complete string quartets. In 1989-90, they received a Grammy for Best Classical Album and Gramophone magazine's Record of the Year Award. This was the first time in the history of each award that a chamber music ensemble had ever received the top prize.

The Emersons added another Grammy to their discography with American Originals, a compact disc of Ives and Barber quartets, which received the award for Best Chamber Music Recording of 1994. Forthcoming releases include the complete quartets of Ludwig von Beethoven.

The Emerson String Quartet took its name from American poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson. The members have performed in benefit concerts for causes ranging from nuclear disarmament to the fight against AIDS, world hunger and children's diseases. In 1995, each member received an honorary doctoral degree from Middlebury College in Vermont, and in 1994 the University Medal for Distinguished Service from the University of Hartford.

The group has been featured in the New York Times Magazine, Elle, Bon Appetit, and Strings magazines, to name a few. The New York Times quotes Juilliard's founding first violinist Robert Mann as saying that "what most distinguishes the Emerson is their dramatic energy," adding that the group projects with a fiery zest.

The Oct. 12 performance of the Emerson String Quartet is sponsored by the University Events Office at UCSD. Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$10 for students. Tickets are available at the University Box Office, 534-6467, and at Ticketmaster outlets. For further information call 534-4090.

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