

Mendelssohn String Quartet to perform with clarinetist Charles Neldich Nov. 15 at UCSD

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MENDELSSOHN STRING QUARTET TO PERFORM WITH CLARINETIST CHARLES NEIDICH NOV. 15 AT UCSD

The Mendelssohn String Quartet, hailed by the New York Times as being "as adept at the achievement of ravishing sounds and tender lyricism as they are at problem solving," will perform at 8 p.m. Nov. 15 in Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

Ensemble members are Nick Eanet, violin; Nicholas Mann, violin; Maria Lambros, viola, and Marcy Rosen, cello. Performing with them will be special guest Charles Neidich, clarinet.

The Nov. 15 program will include Mendelssohn: Andante and Scherzo, Opus 81; Mozart: Clarinet Quintet in A Major, K 581, and Brahms: Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Opus 115. The performance is sponsored by the UCSD University Events Office.

Based in New York, the Mendelssohn String Quartet serves as Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Delaware and as the Blodgett Artists-in-Residence at Harvard University. It won the Young Artists International Auditions in 1981, has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and Chamber Music America, and is regularly heard across the United States on Minnesota Public Radio Saint Paul Sunday Morning.

The quartet tours throughout North America and Europe, appearing at such venues as Carnegie Hall, Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center and Library of Congress, festivals in Aspen, Saratoga and Ravinia, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam and the Wigmore Hall in London. It was the only American ensemble invited to perform at the International Dialogues Festival in Kiev, Ukraine.

The Mendelssohn String Quartet has a strong commitment to contemporary music and has performed the world premieres of four new string quartets by Bernard Rand, Augusta Reed Thomas, David Home, and Scott Wheeler. It records with Laurel Records, Nonesuch, Music Masters Classics, and Musical Heritage Society/Music Masters.

Of a performance by the Mendelssohn, the New Mexican writes: "The musicians have such fine articulation and phrasing, and they play so splendidly together with eye contact, mind-reading and ability, totally without histrionics."

Clarinetist Charles Neidich divides his time between recitals and orchestra engagements world-wide. He has a repertoire of more than 200 solo works including pieces commissioned or inspired by him, as well as his own transcriptions of vocal and instrumental works.

A native New Yorker of Russian and Greek descent, Neidich studied clarinet with Leon Russianoff prior to and while attending Yale University and for three years with Boris Dikov and Kirill Vinogradov at the Moscow Conservatory on a Fulbright grant. He is a member of the artist faculties of the Juilliard School, the Manhattan School of Music, and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He is also a visiting professor at the Sibelius Academy in Finland.

Neidich has presented premieres of the 20th century's leading composers, including William Schumann, Milton Babbitt, Ralph Shapey, Joan Tower, and Edison Denisov. His recent recordings include Schumann's violin Sonatas and Romances, in his own transcription, for Sony Classical, and the Weber Concertos and Rossini Introduction, Theme and Variations with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra for Deutsche Grammophon.

Of a Neidich and Mendelssohn performance, the Globe and Mail in Toronto writes: "Neidich and the Mendelssohn are fired by an implicit recollection of what it is, artistically speaking, to be hungry. There is a kind of foraging spirit to their play, as though the hunt for musical meaning were really a matter of life and death."

Tickets for the Nov. 15 performance of the Mendelssohn String Quartet and guest clarinetist Neidich are \$20 general admission and \$10 for students. Tickets are available at the UCSD Box Office, 534-8497, and at Ticketmaster outlets. For further information, call the UCSD University Events Office at 534-4090.

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