

Biography Ragazze Quartet

Whether they are playing well-known classics, works by unjustly forgotten composers or new talent, the Ragazze Quartet is always fully committed to renewing and broadening string quartet repertoire and making string quartet culture more exciting.

In adventurous productions, they address socially relevant themes such as climate change, slavery history, mourn and feminism, collaborating with special partners such as Abel Selaocoe, Conny Jansen Danst, Jorinde Keesmaat, Lucia Lucas, Via Berlin, Thomas Beijer, Nynke Laverman and the Kronos Quartet. They also make exciting contributions to the renewal of the string quartet repertoire through commissions and arrangements. They commissioned new work from a.o. Aftab Darvishi, Caroline Shaw, Garth Knox, Calliope Tsoupaki, Annelies Van Parys and Seung-Won Oh.

The Ragazze Quartet has since long been inspired by the richness of sound from various cultures and will continue this line even more strongly in the coming period. This opens up the string quartet genre, rooted in Western tradition, to new sounds and approaches.

Ragazze thus provides a stage for underexposed composers and contributes to opening new perspectives.

“Excellent performances from this challenging and always engaging ensemble” - BBC 3 on But Not My Soul

As great supporters of the contemporary music practice, the four women belong to the top Dutch string quartets.

As Channel Classics artist, they released ten albums which invariably met with good reviews. On their latest CD *But Not My Soul*, the quartet presents its modest rediscovery of America, particularly from a more feminine perspective. See [Our Music](#) for an overview of all their albums.

The Ragazze Quartet is a welcome guest at both large and smaller venues and festivals in the Netherlands and Belgium. Foreign tours have e.g. taken them to the UK, Ireland, Sweden, France, China, Japan, Indonesia and the US. They appear regularly on radio and TV in The Netherlands, but also on the BBC, Klara and France Musique.

Founded in 2001, the Ragazze Quartet consists of Rosa Arnold (violin), Jeanita Vriens (violin), Annemijn Bergkotte (viola) and Nathalie Flintrop (cello). They curate festival

‘Nothing but good things about the Ragazze: a great ensemble we can really be proud of, technically and stylistically optimally equipped for even the most difficult pieces’ – Opus Klassiek

September Me, an annual festival with adventurous programming, featuring young Dutch and international musicians and makers.

The Ragazze Quartet receives multi-year funding from Performing Arts Fund NL and the Amsterdam Fund for the Arts. Jeanita's violin, Nathalie's cello and Annemijn's bow were made

available by the Dutch Musical Instruments Foundation. Furthermore, the Ragazze own a quartet of classical bows made by Andreas Grütter, made possible by the Foundation Own Musical Instrument.