

QUARTETTO DI CREMONA

*An album for the ensemble's 20th anniversary
that offers the highest level of listening pleasure!*

Randomagazin | November 2020

Ein Wunder! (A wonder!)

Der neue Merker | July 2019

An unexpected emphasis here, an unusual moment of phrasing there: the Cremona Quartet are unpredictable, but never mannered in these Schubert chamber masterpieces. They capture the profound beauty of both works.

BBC Music Magazine | July 2019

Indeed, in Beethoven cycle, the Quartetto di Cremona presents itself as an eminent ambassador of the Italian Quartet Culture and, at the same time, confirms its position as an ensemble of international excellence.

Fono Forum | January 2018

Since its formation in 2000, the Quartetto di Cremona has established a reputation as one of the most exciting chamber ensembles on the international stage. Regularly invited to perform in major music festivals in Europe, North and South America, and Far East, they garner universal acclaim for their high level of interpretive artistry.

“BBT Fellowship” prize winner in 2005, the Quartetto di Cremona received by the Borletti Buitoni Trust also the “Franco Buitoni Award” (2019) for its constant contribution to the promotion of chamber music in Italy and around the world.

In 2020 the Quartetto di Cremona celebrated its first twenty years of career, with distinguished concerts and recording projects developed over consecutive seasons. Among them, the release of “Italian Postcards” (Avie Records), which assembles evocations of the Mediterranean country by four non-natives, such as Mozart, Wolf, Tchaikovsky and Nimrod Borenstein who wrote a brand-new piece for the occasion. The album has been very well received by the international critics.

Due to the pandemic emergency, in 20/21 season several concerts were postponed (among them, the debut at Carnegie Hall in New York and the returns to Wigmore Hall in London and Salle de la Madelaine in Geneva). However, the

ensemble has made its debut at the Rudolfinum in Prague, the CRR Concert Hall in Istanbul and will perform in spring and summer in Germany, France, Scandinavia, as well as at major Italian concert societies. In the 21/22 season, it will play in India, Spain, Holland, Germany, and will hold tours in Asia and North America, with its debut at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York.

Noteworthy previous recording projects include a double CD dedicated to Schubert and featuring cellist Eckart Runge. The album was recorded with the Stradivarius set of instruments named "Paganini Quartet", on kind loan from the Nippon Music Foundation (Tokyo), and attracted high levels of acclaim in the international press. Same goes for the Beethoven's string quartets cycle: the eight volumes won prestigious awards (including Echo Klassik 2017 and ICMA 2018) and received numerous recognitions from specialized critics.

Frequently invited to present masterclasses in Europe, Asia, North and South America, since 2011 they are Professors at the "Walter Stauffer Academy" in Cremona. They are ambassadors for the international project "Friends of Stradivari" and honorary citizens of Cremona, UNESCO Cultural Heritage for violin making. They are also testimonials for "Le Dimore del Quartetto" and Thomastik Infield Strings.

Cristiano Gualco

violin Nicola Amati, Cremona 1640

Paolo Andreoli

violin Paolo Antonio Testore, Milano ca. 1758 (Kulturfonds Peter Eckes)

Simone Gramaglia

viola Gioachino Torazzi, ca. 1680 (Kulturfonds Peter Eckes)

Giovanni Scaglione

cello Dom Nicola Amati, Bologna 1712 (Kulturfonds Peter Eckes)

May 2021

Short version on request