



phot. Daniel Hanack

19 August, Saturday, 8.00 pm
St Bernardino of Siena Church (Franciscan), ul. Bernardyńska 2

Philharmonia Quartet Berlin

Daniel Stabrawa
violin

Christian Stadelmann
violin

Neithard Resa
viola

Dietmar Schwalke
cello

Joseph Haydn

(1732–1809)

STRING QUARTET No. 51 in G major, Op. 64, No. 4

Allegro con brio

Menuett. Allegretto

Adagio

Presto

Ludwig van Beethoven

(1770–1827)

STRING QUARTET No. 5 in A major Op. 18, No. 5

Allegro con brio

Adagio ma non troppo

Scherzo: Allegro

„La Malinconia“: Adagio / Allegretto quasi allegro

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Robert Schumann

(1810–1856)

STRING QUARTET No. 1 in A minor, Op. 41

Introduzione: Andante espressivo / Allegro

Scherzo: Presto

Adagio

Presto

“Four of the best” that’s what London press was writing about **PHILHARMONIA QUARTETT** BERLIN after their debut at the Wigmore Hall. Lord Yehudi Menuhin added: „I’d like to hear music always played as beautifully as you play”.

And indeed, in Europe, USA, Japan and South America, Philharmonia Quartett Berlin has gained since its formation in 1985, a name of one of the best string quartets with a dense sound and perfect consonance. This often described as “top-flight ensemble” string quartet delineates new standards. The ensemble is a permanent guest at the prestigious concert series all around the world, such as Carnegie Hall and Wigmore Hall in London and at the international festivals such as Salzburg Festival.

This wonderful cast delighted the pope Benedict XVI in a private concert. They regularly play for the Spanish royal family at Palacio Real, where one can play in exclusive company on Stradivarius instruments.

Three from numerous CD recordings with music of Reger, Shostakovich and Britten has won the award Deutscher Schallplattenpreis and „Süddeutsche Zeitung” described them as outstanding. For the recording of the *Violin Concerto Op.130 and Große Fuge* Op. 133 of Beethoven, the ensemble was awarded the Echo Klassik award twice. In Buenos Aires they have been awarded the Argentine Critic Prize. Their performance of the cycles of Beethoven and Shostakovich music raised international interest and delighted the Berlin audience.

Thorough and insightful repertoire of the quartet includes more than hundred pieces now. On one hand, the ensemble with passion of the explorers keeps their artistic research preparing classical repertoire and 20th century music, but on the other hand focuses on performing of the less commonly heard string quartets such as Hindemith’s (No. 4), Reger’s (Op. 74), Schulhoff’s (No. 1) or Szymanowski’s (No. 2).

Until the sudden death of a cellist Jan Diesselhorst in February 2009 Philharmonia Berlin played in unchanged line-up. His place is now taken by Dietmar Schwalke with whom the ensemble presents unique culture of consonance and sound coherence on the stages all over the world.

DANIEL STABRAWA was born in 1955 in Cracow. He is a first concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic. Daniel Stabrawa is a laureate of the most important international competitions. After his diploma under Professor Zbigniew Szlezer in 1979, he became a concertmaster of the Polish Radio Orchestra in Cracow. In 1983 he came to the Berlin Philharmonic, where, at the time of Herbert von Karajan as a director, he was

appointed the first concertmaster in 1986. Daniel Stabrawa features regularly as a soloist with the Orchestra of the Berlin Philharmonic, plays in many countries in Europe, Asia and America. With his wife – pianist Elżbieta Stabrawa they have participated in numerous sonatas evenings all over the world. He has a special inclination for performing the music of his compatriot Karol Szymanowski. Since 1994 Stabrawa has paid more and more attention to conducting and in the season 1995/96 he became the director of the ensemble Capella Bydgosciensis.

Berliner **CHRISTIAN STADELMAN** is the youngest member of the ensemble. He took his first lessons from Professor Charlotte Hampe and graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, class led by Professor Thomas Brandis. Christian Stadelman is a laureate of many competitions and a charter-member of the German Chamber Philharmonic in Bremen. After few years of playing with the orchestra Junge Deutsche Philharmonie, he moved in 1985 to the Berlin Philharmonic where he has been a leader of a violin section since 1987.

NEITHARD RESA is also a native Berliner. First, he has studied violin playing under Professor Michael Schwalbe, then he has moved to Koln to Professor Max Rostal. Thanks to his graduation concert he was able to go to study in the USA under Michael Tree (Guarneri Quartet) as a DAAD scholarship holder. In 1978 he was a laureate of the German Music Council Competition and was chosen in the German eliminations the member of the "Concerts of Young Artists". In the same year he started to work in the Berlin Philharmonic as a solo alto violist.

DIETMAR SCHWALKE has been a member of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra since 1994. He was born in Hamburg in 1958 and started his first cello lessons at age 12. He first studied in Hamburg under Arthur Troester; then under Wolfgang Boetcher in Berlin; and finished his studies under Pierre Fournier. Dietmar Schwalke won several awards at German national competitions. He gave his debut in the Berlin Philharmonie in 1981 with the *Cello Concerto* by Robert Schumann with the Radio Symphony Orchestra Berlin. Dietmar was a member of the Kreuzberger Streichquartett Berlin for 7 years with whom he travelled across Europe. Simultaneously he taught cello at Hochschule der Kuenste and held the position of visiting professor for chamber music. In April 2009 Dietmar took on the position of the late Jan Diesselhorst as cellist of the Philharmonia Quartet Berlin.



THE BERNARDINE CHURCH. Bernardines settled here in the middle of the 15th century. The first church was founded by Cardinal Zbigniew Oleśnicki, while the current structure was built in the second half of the 17th century by Krzysztof Mieroszewski. This modest Baroque church has a twin-towered facade and a roofed dome covering the transept. The late Baroque interior houses altarpieces by Franciszek Leśzcycki (*The Last Supper*, *Crucifixion* and *Christ falls under the Cross*), a late gothic wooden sculpture of St. Anne from the workshop of Wit Stwosz and a Baroque painting *The Death Dance*, which was to remind the faithful about the vanity of earthly life and incite reflection on death and eternal life. The northern chapel has relics of the blessed Szymon of Lipnica (died 1482).