

MODIGLIANI QUARTETGuillaume Sutre, violin Laurent Marfaing, viola
Loïc Rio, violin François Kieffer, cello

“One of today’s best quartets in the world...Balance, transparency, symphonic comprehension, confident style, their performance reached a very high and inspiring level”

Harald Eggbrecht in Süddeutsche Zeitung

“Modigliani musicians show they’re a fab foursome”

Seattle Times, November 2013

The Modigliani Quartet, formed by four close friends in 2003 is a regular guest of the world’s top venues like Wigmore Hall, Carnegie Hall, Philharmonie de Paris-Cité de la Musique, Het Concertgebouw, Berlin’s Konzerthaus, Cologne’s Philharmonie, Victoria Hall, Brussels’ Bozar, Vienna’s Musikverein and Konzerthaus, Salzburg’s Mozarteum, Munich’s Prinzregentheater and Herkulessaal, Barcelona’s Auditori, Tokyo’s Oji Hall, Luxemburg’s Philharmonie, Zurich’s Tonhalle, Philadelphia’s Kimmel Center, and festivals like Lucerne, Schwetzingen, Rheingau, Kissinger Sommer, Schleswig-Holstein, Gstaad Menuhin Festival, Schwarzenberg-Hohenems Schubertiade, Maverick Festival, Lanaudière Festival, Heidelberger Frühling, Toronto Summer Music Festival, Copenhagen Chamber Music Festival, La Roque d’Anthéron, Montpellier Radio France Festival, La Folle Journée de Nantes, Baalbeck, Edinburgh International Festival.

In the 2016-17 season the Modigliani returns to Japan for performances in Tokyo, and tours extensively in Europe and the U.S. In the 2015-16 season they toured Australia, Japan, Korea, the U.S. and Europe.

In 2014, the Modigliani Quartet became Artistic Directors of the Rencontres Musicales d’Evian. After a 13-year hiatus, the festival, made famous by its former legendary artistic director Mstislav Rostropovich, and created in 1976 by Antoine Riboud, started a new life through the joint efforts of the Evian Resort and the Modigliani Quartet. Following the promising success of the first season, the festival has quickly become one of Europe’s major and most publicized events.

The quartet has recorded for the Mirare label since 2008 and has released 5 award-winning CDs, all receiving great critical acclaim in several countries. Their first Haydn CD was a Strad selection, their Mendelssohn CD in 2010 was a Fono Forum selection (disc of the month) and garnered admiration from critics and audiences worldwide. In 2012 their fourth CD was dedicated to youth with quartets by young Mozart, Schubert and Arriaga. Their Debussy-Ravel-Saint Saëns CD in 2013 also got rave reviews including a Strad selection. They released a second Haydn CD in 2014. The renowned critic and string quartet specialist Harald Eggbrecht wrote in the Süddeutsche Zeitung about this CD: “It is a real treat to hear with what panache, what witty playfulness, what youthful energy the quartet plays, yet never yielding to casualness. The balance of the four voices, the delicacy of sounds is always impressive, with constant attention to dynamics, harmony and rhythmic precision. It sounds effortless, sovereign and extremely supple.” Another critic from Hessischer Rundfunk wrote “The Modigliani ensemble's interpretation pays true homage to the clarity and eloquence of Haydn's work, while at the same time sacrificing none of the master's roguishness. They are not afraid to take risks, regardless of the consequences - a more animated recording would hardly be possible.” In the Fall of 2015 they released their most recent Bartok-Dohnanyi-Dvorak CD.

Only one year after they were formed, the quartet attracted international attention in 2004 by winning the Frits Philips String Quartet competition in Eindhoven. The Quartet then took First Prize at the Vittorio Rimbotti competition in Florence in 2005 and won the Young Concert Artists Auditions in New York in 2006.

Following their studies at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris, the Modigliani Quartet studied with the Ysaÿe Quartet in Paris, attended masterclasses by Walter Levin and György Kurtág, and then had the opportunity to work with the Artemis Quartet at the Universität der Künste in Berlin.

The quartet regularly plays chamber music with Sabine Meyer, Renaud Capuçon, Nicholas Angelich, Jean-Frédéric Neuburger, Marie-Elisabeth Hecker or Daniel Müller-Schott and various musician friends.

The Modigliani quartet plays on four outstanding Italian instruments: Guillaume Sutre plays a violin made by Gregorio Antoniazzi, an enigmatic Venetian maker from the Eighteenth Century, Loïc Rio plays a 1734 violin by Alessandro Gagliano, Laurent Marfaing plays a 1660 viola by Luigi Mariani, and François Kieffer plays a 1706 cello by Matteo Goffriller (former "Warburg").

The Modigliani Quartet is very thankful for the help of the SPEDIDAM.

2016-17