

"The ensemble's playing is incredibly solid and well-balanced. All Four musicians perform at the same level and their music-making is enthralling."

NOVUS STRING QUARTET

JAEYOUNG KIM (VIOLIN), YOUNG-UK KIM (VIOLIN), KYUHYUN KIM (VIOLA), WOONGWHEE MOON (VIOLONCELLO)

It was with these words that Lukas Hagen, first violinist of the renowned Hagen Quartett, described the four musicians' artistic quality after their performance at the International Mozart Competition held in Salzburg in 2014. Lukas Hagen was president of the Jury. The quartet went on to win First Prize at the Competition.

Established at the Korean National University of Arts in 2007, the Novus String Quartet is one of the leading chamber music ensembles in Korea.

Since the quartets triumph at the prestigious ARD International Chamber Music Competition in Munich in 2012, where it was awarded Second Prize, the Novus String Quartet has gained steady recognition in Europe. In 2010, the quartet was the first chamber music ensemble to be featured on the list of promising musicians of the year by the music magazine Auditorium. Since then, the quartet has performed concerts internationally, lauded by audiences and critics alike.

One year after its founding, the quartet celebrated inaugural success at the International Chamber Music Competition Osaka, where the musicians were awarded Third Prize. One year later, the quartet received Third Prize at the 2009 Chamber Music Competition in Lyon.

From 2011 to 2014, the Novus String Quartet studied with the Professors Christoph Poppen and Hariolf Schlichtig at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Munich and in the seoson of 14/15 at the Hochschule für Musik in Lübeck with Professor Heime Müller, former member of the Artemis Quartet. Since June 2015, the Belcea Quartet has been the mentor of the Novus String Quartet. The quartet is part of the Belcea Quartet Trust Coaching Scheme.

Their first CD (Novus Quartet #1) was released at the French Label *Aparté* in Spring 2016, presenting works from Beethoven, Webern and the rarely played Korean composer Isang Yun. The 2nd recording including Tchaikovsky's 1st string quartet as well as the sextet "Souvenir de Florence" was released in Autumn 2017. The spring 2019 will see the release of the third recording of the string quartet with Berg's Lyric Suite and Schubert's quartet "Death and the Maiden".

The 2018/2019 season will see them perform at Vienna's Konzerthaus, the Wigmore Hall London and Cologne's Philharmonie, as well as in festivals such as Mecklenburg Vorpommern and Wissembourg.

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