

Airis Quartet



Airis Quartet, consisting of :

Aleksandra Czajor - I violin,

Grażyna Zubik - II violin,

Natalia Warzecha – viola,

Katarzyna Detko – cello,

was founded in 2007. The ensemble is comprised of graduate students of Cracow Academy of Music. It was their common passion of music, ambition and inner urge to find the new artistic ways that brought them together. The cooperation was started with exploration the secrets of contemporary music. In less than half a year since its foundation, the quartet took part in the International Competition of Contemporary Chamber Music in Cracow and was awarded the **Second Prize**, which gave momentum to its development. It also resulted in invitation to the Contemporary Music Festival in Trnava, Slovakia, and a recital in local Museum of Contemporary Arts. Following years have brought numerous awards:

- **Polish-Danish Friendship Prize**, won at International Competition of Contemporary Chamber Music in Cracow, 2010,
- **Honourous Distinction** at International String Quartet Competition in Radom, 2011,
- **Public Prize** awarded during the final concert of Masterclasses carried out by Apollon Musagette Quartett,
- **“EMCY Prize for Excellent Performance”** and **Special Prize** – an invitation to Orlando Festival, Holland – at the 27th International Charles Hennen Competition, 2012,
- **Windisch Kammermusik Preis** in Wien, 2012.

During its five-year existence, the ensemble has performed at numerous festivals in Poland, Germany, Denmark, France, Holland, Slovakia and Hungary.



Airis Quartet acquired the essentials of playing together tutored by **Dafo Quartet** in Cracow. At present, the ensemble takes part in post-graduate studies at University of Music and Performing Arts in Wien in **Johannes Meissl's** class, violinist of **Artis Quartet**. Furthermore, the quartet has taken part in numerous masterclasses, exploring secrets of musical language typical to various musical styles, practicing ensemble skills, persuasion and expressiveness, supervised by outstanding musicians: Marek Moś (Silesian String Quartet, Aukso Orchestra), Arkadiusz Kubica (Silesian String Quartet), Piotr Reichart (Camerata Quartet), Royal String Quartet, Apollon Musagette Quartet, Melos Quartet, Dafo Quartet, Piotr Tarcholik, Jeroen Reuling, Sara Kapustin (Rubens Quartet) Marc Danel (Danel Quartet) Grzegorz Kotow (Szymanowski Quartet), Luc Marie Aguera (Ysaye Quartet), Hatto Bayerle, Johannes Meissl (Artis Quartet).

In 2012 Airis Quartet was admitted to the **European Chamber Music Academy**, which incorporates prominent professors and promising young ensembles, at threshold of their careers.



In scope of quartet's inspirations, except **classical** and **romantic** works, main place is held by:

- **contemporary music** (the ensemble has cooperated with famous Polish composer, maestro Krzysztof Penderecki),
- **experimental music** (performing works from borderline of musical theatre and chamber music, sonoristic improvisations during art exhibitions),
- **film music** (recording „Dans les pas de Marie Curie” original soundtrack, written by Krzysztof A. Janczak, 2011),

which all give space for creativity, imagination and exploration. The ensemble willingly undertakes new artistic challenges, mixing music with different fields of art, is open to cooperate with young composers, often performing their works at premiere. Moreover, Airis Quartet collaborates with numerous artists like outstanding German clarinetist, Daniel Bollinger – first clarinetist of Karlsruhe Opera Theater - and Puelle Orantes – award-winning female choir from Tarnów, which the quartet

has recorded an album with in 2012. In 2013 Airis Quartet has started an unusual cooperation with Amadrums Trio – the percussion ensemble, Grand Prix winners at International Competition of Contemporary Chamber Music in Cracow, 2010. The Septet prepares to record an album including piece written by young Polish composer, Łukasz Pieprzyk, exclusively for the ensemble. The project is financially supported by Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.



Airis Quartet is a young quartet, dynamically developing over time, constantly curious of new artistic challenges, looking for inspiring artists ready to cooperate. The ensemble not only finds its feet in repertoire commonly described as „classics of string quartet”, but also looks for uncommon use of string quartet, utilizing their great skills of sound creation and instrumental proficiency.

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Repertuar:

W. A. Mozart - Kwartet smyczkowy B-dur KV 458 "Polowanie"

W. A. Mozart – Kwartet smyczkowy (Dysonansowy) C-dur KV 465

L. van Beethoven - Kwartet smyczkowy no1 op.18

A. Dvorak - Kwartet smyczkowy F-dur „Amerykanski” op.96

E. Grieg – Kwartet smyczkowy g – moll op. 27

F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy - Kwartet smyczkowy f-moll op.80

F. Schubert – Kwartet smyczkowy B dur D 112 op. 168

F. Schubert – Kwartet smyczkowy d moll D 810 “Śmierć i dziewczyna”

B. Bartok - II Kwartet smyczkowy

D. Szostakowicz - VIII Kwartet smyczkowy

K. Szymanowski – II Kwartet smyczkowy

M. Ravel – Kwartet smyczkowy

G. Bacewicz – IV Kwartet smyczkowy

K. Penderecki- II Kwartet smyczkowy

K. Penderecki – III Kwartet smyczkowy

K. Meyer - VIII Kwartet smyczkowy

W. Lutosławski – Kwartet smyczkowy (1964)

M. Stachowski – „Musica festeeggiante” na kwartet smyczkowy

M. Chyżyński – „Reflection no.1” na kwartet smyczkowy

A. Zawadzka-Gołosz - „Metafrazy” na motywach Chopina

M. Małecki - I Kwartet smyczkowy

P. Sarnecki – „Choral quartet”

F. Say - Kwartet smyczkowy “Divorce”

A. Sallinen - “Some aspects of Peltoniemi Hintriiks’s Funeral March” na kwartet smyczkowy

P. Glass - Kwartet smyczkowy nr 4

I. Martha - “Doom. A sigh” na kwartet smyczkowy i tasmę

Ch. W. Christensen - Kwartet smyczkowy

J. Valdhuis - "There must be some way out of here" na kwartet smyczkowy

A. Gherman - "Strings and mouth" na kwartet smyczkowy

Ch. Meijering – "Caixa de Dolcos"

P. Vasks - Kwartet smyczkowy nr 4

R. Augustyn – I Kwartet smyczkowy

W. A. Mozart - Kwintet klarnetowy A-dur KV581

J. Brahms – Kwintet klarnetowy op.115

J. Brahms – Kwintet fortepianowy op.34

R. Schumann - Kwintet fortepianowy Es-dur op.44

F. Mendelssohn – Oktet smyczkowy E dur op.20

C. M. von Weber - Kwintet klarnetowy op.34

F. Chopin - Koncerty fortepianowe e-moll i f-moll (akompaniamenty)

D. Szostakowicz – Kwintet fortepianowy op. 57

J. Zarębski – Kwintet fortepianowy op. 34

Ks. Wojciech Kałamarz – „Stabat Mater” na mezzosopran i kwartet smyczkowy

W. Żuławski – Kwintet fortepianowy