



“A tone that was warm and shapely yet sufficiently crystalline to allow the textures and individual lines to be savored. It was the kind of virtuosity that does not call attention to itself, but leaves a listener feeling secure that the music is in capable hands.... A hotblooded, richly textured reading.”

--*The New York Times*



recent recordings on PRAGA DIGITALS distributed by harmonia mundi



The Prazak Quartet, formed in 1972, quickly secured top prizes from prestigious competitions, including Evian and the Prague International Competition. They perform regularly on major stages throughout Europe, North America, Japan, and Australia, earning critical acclaim for their technical mastery and expressive lyricism. Their recordings (since 1996 exclusively on Praga/Harmonia Mundi) have garnered numerous international awards, including the Grand Prix International du Disque and the Diapason d'Or.



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“Definitive may be the most overused adjective in the critic’s vocabulary, but no other single word more aptly describes the achievement by this superb foursome.”

--*Chicago Tribune*

“Performed with mastery and the freedom that comes with deep identification with the music...the members perform rhapsodically and flamboyantly but in absolutely effortless synchronicity with one another”

--*Philadelphia Inquirer*

“A vivid and moving experience...an exceptional evening of music-making.”

--*The Dallas Morning News*

“Near ideal.”

--*BBC Music Magazine*

“The Prazak plays with the great tonal warmth and beauty of the Guarneri, the huge dynamic range of the Alben Berg, [and] the superb intonation of the old Quartetto Italiano.”

--*Fanfare*

“A warmth that recalled the proximity of coffee house and concert hall in the old Austro-Hungarian empire.”

--*The Strad*

“Poetic...powerful...It was the kind of performance that grabbed you by the collar and refused to behave.”

--*Los Angeles Times*

# Prazak Quartet - Program Offerings

**November, 2006 & Feb-Mar, 2007** North American tours

## Opening work (select one)

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Franz Xaver RICHTER – Divertimento for String Quartet op.5, No. 1       | 7'  |
| Joseph HAYDN – String Quartet in D-Major, Op. 76, No. 5 (or other, TBD) | 21' |
| W.A.MOZART - String Quartet in D-Major, KV 575                          | 25' |
| Beadrich SMETANA - Quartet No. 2 in D-minor                             | 18' |

## Second work (select one)

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Bohuslav MARTINU – String Quartet No. 3           | 24' |
| Erwin SCHULHOFF – 5 Pieces for String Quartet     | 15' |
| Alexander von ZEMPLINSKI – String Quartet No.     | 23' |
| Beadrich SMETANA - Quartet No. 2 in D-minor       | 18' |
| Leos JANACEK - Quartet No. 1 (“Kreutzer Sonata”)  | 18' |
| Leos JANACEK - Quartet No. 2 (“Intimate Letters”) | 26' |

## Final work (select one)

|  |
|--|
| Johannes BRAHMS – String Quartet in Bb-Major, Op. 67               |
| Franz SCHUBERT – String Quartet in D-minor (“Death and Maiden”)    |
| Bedrich SMETANA – String Quartet No. 1 in E-minor (“From my life”) |
| Antonin DVORAK – String Quartet in Ab-Major, Op. 105               |
| Antonin DVORAK – Quartet in F-Major, Op. 96 (“American”)           |

## Also possible as final work (with specified guest artist)

with **Roger Tapping**, viola:  
--Mozart Quintet in G-minor  
--Brahms Quintet in G-Major

with **Natasha Brovsky**, cello:  
--Schubert Quintet in C-Major

with **Jon Nakamatsu**, piano:  
--Dvorak Quintet in A-Major  
--Brahms Quintet in F-minor  
--Schumann Quintet in Eb-Major

Please construct your program using the above guidelines and advise us of your preference. The Prazak Quartet is very flexible, but will need to approve all program selections.

9/05