

SUNDAY 7TH JUNE

Karski Quartet



Kaja Nowak
VIOLIN
Natalia Kotarba
VIOLIN
Diede Verpoest
VIOLIN AND VIOLA
Julia Kotarba
CELLO

A concert featuring the prodigious **"Karski Quartet"** a young string quartet praised by the international press for its freshness and intensity.

A surprising and festive concert.

PROGRAM

Joseph Haydn
QUATUOR OP.64 N3

Dinuk Wijeratne
QUATUOR
"THE DISAPPEARANCE
OF LISA GHERARDINI"

Félix Mendelssohn
QUATUOR OP.13

Quickly recognized on the international music scene for their passionate interpretations of works ranging from Haydn to the 21st-century repertoire, the **Karski Quartet** was founded in Belgium in 2018 and performs in numerous venues across Europe. The founding members of the quartet are violinists **Kaja Nowak** and **Natalia Kotarba**, violinist and violist **Diede Verpoest**, and cellist **Julia Kotarba**.

Having played together in many different formations, the four musicians met as a quartet at the Resonances Festival Academy. Shortly afterwards, they were awarded the Grand Prize as well as the Special Prize of the Alumni of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels at the 4th International Music Competition "Triomphe de l'Art" in Brussels. Since the quartet's creation, their mentors have included David Waterman, Philippe Graffin, and Amy Norrington.

In January 2019, the quartet joined the String Quartet Studio programme at the Royal Northern College of Music in

Manchester, working closely with Donald Grant (Elias Quartet) and other members of the RNCM chamber music faculty. Since September 2019, the **Karski Quartet** has been Artist in Residence at the Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel in Waterloo, where they study with Gregor Sigl and Vineta Sareika, members of the Artemis Quartet, and Miguel da Silva, while continuing their residency at the RNCM under the European Chamber Music Academy as part of the new ECMAster programme.

The **Karski Quartet** takes its name from Jan Karski, a legendary figure of the Second World War resistance movement. Committed, as he was, to showing others the dramatic truth about the war, the members of the **Karski Quartet** firmly believe that every era needs heroes like him. In the face of the serious challenges confronting humanity today, they find in Karski's deep compassion and uncompromising attitude an example to follow both in art and in life. The **Karski Quartet** is supported by a scholarship from the Borgerhoff Fund. octroyée par le Fonds Borgerhoff.