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"a sumptuous sound with beautifully controlled dynamics"

- Don Kaplan, Early Music America



Lisa Weiss, violin Kati Kyme, violin Anthony Martin, viola William Skeen, violoncello

present

Pages Torn from Hoffmeister

Franz Anton **Hoffmeister**: *Quartet in F minor* Wolfgang Amadeus **Mozart**: *Quartet in D Major, K. 499* Joseph **Haydn**: *Quartet Op. 42 in D minor*

Saturday, February 2, 2013, at 4pm, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell Street (at Franklin), San Francisco, 94109

Sunday, February 3, 2013, at 4pm, All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley Street at Hamilton, Palo Alto, CA 94301

Tickets \$25 (discounts for seniors and students) (415) 520-0611 // www.newesterhazy.org

San Francisco, January 7, 2012: In 18th-century Vienna, composer and musical entrepreneur Franz Anton Hoffmeister issued periodical chamber music collections for subscribers. When the magazine arrived, you would tear out the parts necessary for your next quartet party. For their concert party, the New Esterházy Quartet selected two of the best works ever to appear in these publications: Haydn's *Quartet Op. 42 in D minor* and Mozart's *Quartet in D, K. 499*. The program also features Hoffmeister's own *Quartet in F minor*, which appeared in the same issue as the Haydn quartet.

Hoffmeister announced his intention in 1785 "to lay before lovers of music a plan, according to which they can purchase an entire library of original music over the course of several years...to this end I have already made agreements with our best local composers, Haydn, Mozart, Wanhall, Albrechtsberger, Pleyel, Mitscha, v. Ordonnez &c, as well as foreign masters, together with my own works, to receive new products from month to month." He offered three subscription services, catering to players of keyboard instruments, the flute, and of string chamber music.

Hoffmeister had more than just a casual relationship with Mozart. He was the first publisher of over a dozen of Mozart's works, including sonatas and rondos for piano, violin sonatas, four-hand works, a piano trio and a piano quartet. Furthermore, he was the guarantor for one of the many loans Mozart took out in his last years to tide him over from one commission to the next. And in the official inventory made of Mozart's printed books and music on his death, item 67 (of 73 total) gets by far the highest valuation—a folder of 22 pieces of "Musickpränumeration Hofmeisterishe".

Violist Anthony Martin says about Mozart's Quartet in D, K. 499:

"This is substantial in ambition and scope—no mere magazine article. It sits in solitary splendor between his six 'Haydn' Quartets (heard in our 4th & 5th seasons) and his last three 'Prussian' Quartets."

The members of the New Esterházy Quartet—violinists Kati Kyme and Lisa Weiss, violist Anthony Martin, and cellist William Skeen—have performed and recorded in the top tier of early music ensembles, and often occupy the front seats of Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and American Bach Soloists. The quartet, praised for their "exceptional fluidity and polish," were the first in North America to perform all 68 string quartets of Joseph Haydn on period instruments.