Good Friday
Liturgical Performance
St. Lawrence String Quartet

WHEN:
FRIDAY,
MARCH 30, 2018
5:00 PM

VENUE:
MEMORIAL CHURCH
Program

Joseph Haydn:
The Seven Last Words of Our Savior on the Cross, op. 51, Hob. III: 50–56 (1787)

Introduction: Maestoso ed adagio
1. Largo: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do
2. Grave e cantabile: Today shalt thou be with me in paradise
3. Grave: Woman, behold thy son
4. Largo: My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?
5. Adagio: I thirst
6. Lento: It is finished
7. Largo: Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit
Coda: Il terremoto: The earth shook and the rocks split

Please be considerate of others and turn off all phones, pagers, and watch alarms. Photography and recording of any kind are not permitted. Thank you.

Artists

St. Lawrence String Quartet

Geoff Nuttall, violin
Owen Dalby, violin
Lesley Robertson, viola
Christopher Costanza, cello

Rev. Professor Jane Shaw,
Dean for Religious Life, speaker

This program is presented in partnership with
Music at Stanford and the Office for Religious Life.

St. Lawrence String Quartet

“Modern...dramatic...superb...wickedly attentive...with a hint of rock ‘n roll energy...” are just a few ways critics describe the musical phenomenon that is the St Lawrence String Quartet. The SLSQ is renowned for the intensity of its performances, its breadth of repertoire, and its commitment to concert experiences that are at once intellectually exciting and emotionally alive. Highlights in 2016–17 include performances of John Adams’s Absolute Jest for string quartet and orchestra with Gustavo Dudamel and the LA Philharmonic and with Marin Alsop and the Baltimore Symphony, as well as the European premieres of Adams’s Second Quartet.

Fiercely committed to collaboration with living composers, the SLSQ’s fruitful partnership with Adams, Jonathan Berger, Osvaldo Golijov, and many others has yielded some of the finest additions to the quartet literature in recent years. The Quartet is also especially dedicated to the music of Haydn, and are recording his groundbreaking set of six Op. 20 quartets in high-definition video for a free, universal release online in 2017. According to The New Yorker, “...no other North American quartet plays the music of Haydn with more intelligence, expressivity, and force...”

Established in Toronto in 1989, the SLSQ quickly earned acclaim at top international chamber music competitions and was soon playing hundreds of concerts per year worldwide. They established an ongoing residency at Spoleto Festival USA, made prize-winning recordings for EMI of music by Schumann, Tchaikovsky, and Golijov, earning two Grammy nominations and a host of other prizes before being appointed ensemble-in-residence at Stanford University in 1999.

At Stanford, the SLSQ is at the forefront of intellectual life on campus. The SLSQ directs the music department’s chamber music program, and frequently collaborates with other departments including the Schools of Law, Medicine, Business and Education. The Quartet performs regularly at Stanford Live, hosts an annual chamber music seminar, and runs the Emerging String Quartet Program through which they mentor the next generation of young quartets. In the words of Alex Ross of The New Yorker: “The St. Lawrence are remarkable not simply for the quality of their music making, exalted as it is, but for the joy they take in the act of connection.”