

Dance of the Birds

Under the title **Birds of Passage**, the Ragazze Quartet will delve into non-Western composers and artists in the coming years. The colourful programme **Dance of the Birds** specifically focuses on rhythms from other cultures. The quartet plays works by **Alberto Ginastera**, **Zakir Hussain**, **Kinan Azmeh**, **Fred Onovwerosuoke**, **Aleksandra Vrebalov** and a new commissioned work **Vernon Chatlein** and **Asmaa Hamzaoui**.

How does non-Western rhythm sound on a string quartet? Ragazze Quartet delves into the world of irregular time signatures, layered rhythms, destabilizing timing, traditions that are hundreds of years old and from cultures all over the world. They integrate these into one of the most deeply rooted chamber music forms of Western classical music: the string quartet. By opening up the quartet to Indian, Argentinian, Caribbean, Syrian, Moroccan, West African and Serbian traditional musical influences, Ragazze are making a case for the future of classical music: one without borders.



Sketch by composer Aleksandra Vrebalov

During the rehearsal process, Ragazze will follow workshops by specialists in Argentinian, Indian and African rhythms. These workshops will be open to both participants and the public. The quartet will also interview the composers and experts involved about the place and meaning that rhythm has for them. These interviews and the learning process will be recorded by Ragazze Quartet and shown during the concert.

For the context programming, Ragazze will collaborate with local Indian, Argentinian and African communities. Would you like to become a partner in this context programming as a venue? Please contact us.

Repertoire: Alberto Ginastera 'String Quartet No.1', Zakir Hussain 'Pallavi', Fred Onovwerosuoke 'String Quartet No.2', Aleksandra Vrebalov 'Pannonia Boundless', Kinan Azmeh 'Dabke on Martense Street', Vernon Chatlein 'New commission', Asmaa Hamzaoui 'New commission'.

Performers: Ragazze Quartet

Availability: April 2026 through August 2026

The **Ragazze Quartet** plays both classical and modern string quartet repertoire: inspired and on the highest level. With attractive but unconventional programmes the quartet has come to be one of the most fresh and leading voices in the world of classical music. In innovative programmes it embarks on collaborations with the most original voices in theatre, dance and literature. With performances that speak to all senses they succeed in securing an audience for the rich classical music tradition. In this way they warm the hearts of both the die hard listener and the novice for the string quartet repertoire of the past and of our present day. www.ragazzequartet.nl

If you would like to invite the Ragazze Quartet or if you have any questions, you can contact Coline Vandenberghe (coline.la.musica.artists@gmail.com).