

## CMPromotions

# QUATUOR DIOTIMA BIOGRAPHY

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QUATUOR DIOTIMA, founded by graduates of the Paris and Lyon Conservatoires, was awarded first prize at the FNAPEC Competition, Paris in 1999, and the Contemporary Music Prize at the London String Quartet Competition in 2000, in which year, at the invitation of ProQuartet, they began a two-year residency at the Centre Européen de Musique de Chambre, Fontainebleau.

The Quartet's name pays tribute to Luigi Nono's work *Fragmente Stille, an Diotima*, affirming their strong commitment to the music of our time, which they seek to present, whenever possible, within the context of the more traditional Classical and Romantic string quartet repertoire.

From the outset Diotima were performing internationally; they have appeared at many of the major concert venues and music festivals across Europe including L'Auditorium du Louvre, Cité de la Musique, Berlin Philharmonie, Konzerthaus Berlin, Musica Strasbourg, Ars Musica Brussels, Musica Nova Helsinki, Archipel Geneva, Gulbenkian Foundation Lisbon, Huddersfield Festival, Budapest Autumn Festival, Stockholm New Music, CDMC Madrid, and Centre Acanthes Metz. Concert tours have taken them further afield, to Japan, USA, Central and South America, to which they add Mexico and China/Korea this season.

During the autumn of 2007 Diotima completed their four-concert residency at the Casa da Música, Porto – a panorama of music from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. The 2007/08 season also includes appearances at Festival d'Ile de France, Settembre Musica Torino/Milano, Festival ECLAT Stuttgart, Queen's Hall Edinburgh and City Halls Glasgow, Opéra Bastille Paris, SaarlandischerRadio, and Festival d'Aix-en-Provence.

In 2004 Diotima participated in the first performances of Birtwistle's *The Io Passion* in Aldeburgh and Bregenz and on tour in the United Kingdom. Bringing new works to life is an integral part of Diotima's work and they have given première performances of new quartets by Pauset, Dillon, Kyburz, Durand, Lévinas, Mochizuki, Durieux and Posadas.

Their first major CD, Lachenmann's *Reigen seliger Geister* coupled with Nono's *Fragmente-Stille, an Diotima* (ASSAI 222 492) received a 'Coup de cœur' from the Académie Charles Cros and a 'Diapason découverte'. In 2004 they received the prize for 'Jeunes talents' at the ceremony of the 'Diapason d'or de l'année' in Paris. Recent recording projects include the quartets of Janáček and the little known quartets of Lucien Durosoir (1878–1955), as well as Schoenberg's highly virtuosic concerto for string quartet and orchestra.

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