

BISQC

Banff International
String Quartet Competition

2016 First Prize Laureate
Rolston String Quartet



Rolston String Quartet



“They already belong to a generation of string players performing at a level difficult to imagine in generations past.”

(The Toronto Star)

First Prize winner of the 12th Banff International String Quartet Competition, **Rolston String Quartet** are one of Canada's young ensembles that are storming onto the classical music scene. As the *Calgary Herald* notes, they "chimed the most resonantly with the ideals of perfect quartet playing." The only ensemble to be featured on CBC's 2016 list of hot Canadian classical musicians under 30, the quartet is proving that great ensemble playing is not just for the established ensembles.

The Rolston String Quartet have also won First Prize at the 31st Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition, Third Prize at the inaugural M-Prize Competition, and the Durosoir Prize at the 2016 Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition.

Performances have already taken them throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe, in venues such as The Kennedy Center, Harris Hall, Koerner Hall, and the Auditorium de Bordeaux. Notable collaborations include performances with renowned artists Andrés Díaz, Gil Kalish, Mark Morris, Donald Palma, Jon Kimura Parker, and Miguel da Silva. Additionally, they have worked closely with composers John Luther Adams and Brian Current.

Currently the Graduate Quartet-in-Residence at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, the quartet has also participated in residencies and fellowships at the Académie musicale de Villecroze, Aspen Music Festival, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, McGill International String Quartet Academy, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Robert Mann String Quartet Institute, St. Lawrence String Quartet Seminar, and the Yehudi Menuhin Chamber Music Festival. Mentored primarily by James Dunham, Norman Fischer, and Kenneth Goldsmith, they have received additional guidance from Steven Dann, Paul Kantor, Barry Shiffman, Miguel da Silva, Mark Steinberg, and Alastair Tait.

The Rolston String Quartet, Luri Lee (violin), Jeffrey Dyrda (violin), Hezekiah Leung (viola) and Jonathan Lo (cello), was formed in the summer of 2013 at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity's Chamber Music Residency. They take their name after the Canadian violinist Thomas Rolston, founder and long-time director of the Music and Sound Programs at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity.

"Playing with an astonishing harmonic maturity."

(Calgary Herald)

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