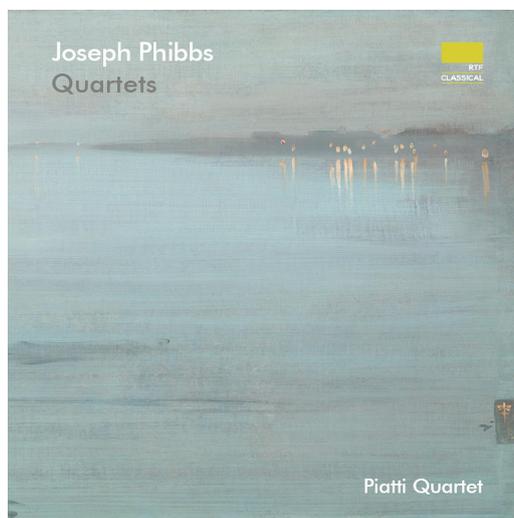


Celebrating composer Joseph Phibbs' 50th birthday, the Piatti Quartet releases **new album of Phibbs' String Quartets Nos. 2-4**

Release date: **1st November, 2024 on Nimbus**
Supported by the Richard Thomas Foundation



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"Phibbs's quartet require nothing less: it was exhilarating, vibrant, curiously but effectively structured, and an unequivocal success on terms that brand new chamber music rarely manages"

Michael White on String Quartet No. 2

"The highlight of the evening was the premiere of the Second String Quartet by Joseph Phibbs (...). From the delicate lightness of its opening, the music ranged through a dream-like fantasy world, moving from fragile glass-like textures one moment, through to furious storm-like episodes, evaporating as quickly as they arose"

The Hereford Times

The Piatti Quartet releases a new album of Quartets Nos. 2-4 by British composer **Joseph Phibbs**, **"one of the most successful composers of his generation"** (BBC Music Magazine).

The Quartet and Phibbs have maintained a close relationship that stretches back several years. Since its joint second prize and Sydney Griller Award at the 2015 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition, the Piatti Quartet has established a high reputation, particularly in the contemporary repertoire. They have recorded and performed Phibbs' String Quartet No. 1 almost 50 times.

Joseph says "Having studied the cello as a child, I have always felt a special affinity with string music. My introduction at the age of 14 to the music of Britten was through his first string quartet, the opening of which still fills me with awe, and his works - especially those for strings - have remained a lifelong inspiration. After the first commission, the Piatti's enthusiasm encouraged me to continue exploring the genre, and - a decade later - it has been both a privilege and a huge pleasure to have another opportunity to write for them

(*String Quartet No.4*). Much of my music is inspired by light and landscapes (as well as cityscapes). When considering which images would best sum up the overall feel of the album, light - both natural and artificial - as seen within a landscape, seemed the most fitting choice.”

As a composer, Phibbs’ main influences are Lutoslawski, Britten and his former teacher Steven Stucky. Over recent years, he has been primarily exploring melody, forging his way using modal, diatonic and triadic harmonies.

Phibbs’s opera *Juliana* premiered in 2018 showed “a strong sense of continuity with the past – not least in the markedly post-Britten soundworld” (BBC Music Magazine). The Guardian added, “Juliana is that rare thing nowadays, a genuinely well-made, effective new opera that achieves exactly what it sets out to do.”



Phibbs is in high demand equally with orchestras including the LSO, Washington Symphony and Malmo Symphony and festivals such as Presteigne, Cheltenham, Tanglewood and Hatfield House. His music has been championed by the world’s leading conductors including Edward Gardner, Gianandrea Noseda, Sakari Oramo, Vassily Petrenko, Esa-Pekka Salonen and Leonard Slatkin. *Rivers to the Sea* premiered by the Philharmonia Orchestra received a BASCA in 2013 and a recording of his Clarinet Concerto was one of the **100 Best Albums of 2019**.

Phibbs has been commissioned to write a cello concerto for Guy Johnston by the BBC Symphony Orchestra. To date he has written five works for the BBC Symphony Orchestra, including *Lumina* for the Last Night of the Proms.

Upcoming Performances

6 March 2025 at 7.30PM
Cheltenham Town Hall

Joseph Phibbs String Quartet No. 4

Piatti Quartet

22nd May 2025 at 7.00PM
Kings Place

Joseph Phibbs String Quartet No.1
Holst Phantasy for String Quartet
Turnage Winter’s Edge III
Thomas Adès Arcadiana Op.12 V.
L’embarquement
Edmund Finnis String Quartet No.1
Aloysius IV Hymn (After Byrd)
Britten String Quartet No.1

Piatti Quartet

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