

CAVANI

STRING QUARTET

Annie Fullard, Violin

Mari Sato, Violin

Kirsten Docter, Viola

Merry Peckham, Cello

The Cavani String Quartet, winner of the prestigious Naumburg Chamber Music Award, has been described by the *Washington Post* as “completely engrossing, powerful and elegant.” In addition to receiving the Naumburg Award, the Cavani Quartet has been a top prizewinner in numerous competitions including the Coleman, Fischhoff, the Banff International, and the Cleveland Quartet Competition. Featured as Young Artists of the Year 1989 by Musical America Magazine, the Quartet’s superlative performances and innovative teaching have garnered them no less than eight Chamber Music America Residency Partnership Grants. In 2005, the Quartet was the first recipient of the Guarneri String Quartet Residency Award from Chamber Music America. The quartet concertizes regularly on major series and festivals throughout North America and Europe. Appearances include the Carnegie Hall Centennial Series and Alice Tully Hall in New York, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the Ambassador Series in Los Angeles, Muziekcentrum De Ijsbreker in Amsterdam, and Festival de L’Epau in France. The *Austin American-Statesman* wrote of their Bartók quartet cycle, “As a group, the quartet played as one, forcefully, confidently, yet passionately. Its full, brightly illuminated sound complemented solo playing as well, without sacrificing each player’s individuality.” The Cavani Quartet has been featured on National Public Radio’s *Performance Today* and seen on NBC, CBS, ABC and PBS television. Collaborations with distinguished artists include Itzhak Perlman, Michela Petri, Anton Nel, Benita Valente, Alisa Weilerstein, Charles Neidich and members of the Juilliard, Cleveland, Ying, St. Lawrence and Emerson String Quartets.

A recipient of the Ohio Governor’s Award, the Cavani Quartet makes its home in Cleveland, Ohio, where they have been Quartet-in-Residence at the world-renowned Cleveland Institute of Music since 1988. At the Institute, the quartet has developed the Apprentice Quartet Program, Intensive Quartet Seminar and New Quartet Project for students devoted to the serious study of chamber music. Students from these programs have gone on to successful careers as members of the Maia, Biava, Miró, Miami, Cassatt, Cypress and Fry Street Quartets and have been top prizewinners of the Coleman, Fischhoff, Banff, and Naumburg Competitions. Dedicated and dynamic teachers, the Cavani Quartet have been visiting artists at the Chamber Music Connection Columbus, New World Symphony, Interlochen Arts Camp, Madeline Island Music Festival, Kneisel Hall, Yale Summer School of Music and Art at Norfolk, Britt Arts Training Program, Perlman Music Program and the Encore School for Strings.

Active proponents of new music, the Cavani Quartet has commissioned, performed, and recorded the music of a worldwide array of living composers, including Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, Dan Welcher, Joan Tower, Donald Erb, James Primosch, and Margaret Brouwer. The quartet annually programs world premieres and is a recipient of an ASCAP-Chamber Music America Award for Adventurous Programming of Contemporary Music.

Nationally recognized as pioneers in arts-in-education, the Cavani Quartet is sought after by universities and communities for their ability to cultivate community partnerships. The quartet has developed creative outreach programs for a wide variety of settings and for audiences of all ages including a series of children’s concerts for The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. The Cavani Quartet has also collaborated with artists across disciplines to create programs that unite poetry, painting, theatre and dance with the string quartet medium, including the award-winning M.A.P. (Music, Art and Poetry) program. In partnership with Southern Illinois University, the Chamber Music Society of Southern Illinois and the Thomas School String Project, the Quartet has helped to ignite

a String Program initiative throughout the state of Illinois. As a result of their extensive experience in chamber music education, the Cavani Quartet was invited to participate as a leadership ensemble in the first national Chamber Music Educator/Ensemble Seminar sponsored by Chamber Music America. The Quartet has been on the Advisory Board of Amateur Chamber Music Players and currently serves on the Honorary Board of the Suzuki Association of the Americas.

Formed in 1984, the Cavani Quartet is named after the 19th century violin makers Giovanni and Vincenzo Cavani. Recordings of Bartók, Ravel, Dvořák, Schumann, Brahms, Welcher, Erb, Chausson, Brouwer and Primosch are available on the Azica, Gasparo, New World, Albany, and Pantheon labels.

For more information, visit our website: www.cavani.org or e-mail to cavani4@aol.com