

For Immediate Release Oct. 8, 2009 | 82-09

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Penderecki String Quartet announces new cellist, Jacob Braun

Quartet to perform at Perimeter Institute's Quantum to Cosmos Festival.

WATERLOO – Jacob Braun has joined the renowned Penderecki String Quartet as the group's new cellist, succeeding Simon Fryer. Braun has also taken the position of artist-in-residence at Wilfrid Laurier University, where members of the Penderecki Quartet make their home.

Braun will perform with the quartet on October 16 at the Quantum to Cosmos Festival at the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo.

Born and raised in the Boston area, Braun comes from a rich string quartet background. While studying at Yale University, he served as a teaching assistant to the Tokyo String Quartet and was a founding member of the Biava Quartet for nine years.

Braun won the 2003 Naumburg Chamber Music Award and top prizes in the London String Quartet Competition, and the Premio Paolo Borciani String Quartet Competition in Italy. With the Biava Quartet, he also won top prizes in the United States at the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition and the Coleman Chamber Music Competition. In addition to his studies at Yale, Braun holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music and the New England Conservatory in Boston. Along with his award-winning talent, Braun brings with him a William "Royal" Forster cello, made in 1795.

On October 16, the Penderecki Quartet takes the stage at the Perimeter Institute's Quantum to Cosmos Festival (http://www.q2cfestival.com), where the musicians join Dancetheatre David Earle in a new work involving a quantum computer. Composed by University of Chicago professor Kotoka Suzuki, the work titled "Vestigia" was guided by one of the Perimeter's leading physicists, Raymond Laflamme. "Vestigia" is inspired by the many phenomena of quantum physics and metaphorically explores these themes through live electronics, interactive video and dance.

Also on the program is Anton von Webern's 100-year-old "Five Pieces for String Quartet Op.5," here newly celebrated with video design by Waterloo artist Laura De Decker. Franz Schubert's great "Quintet in C" rounds off the evening with guest cellist Roman Borys from the Gryphon Trio.

For tickets call 519-883-4480 or visit: http://www.q2cfestival.com