Calidore String Quartet
    Jeffrey Myers, Violin
    Ryan Meehan, Violin
    Jeremy Berry, Viola
    Estelle Choi, Cello

With Guest Violist
    Tanner Menees

November 17th, 2023 at 8pm
    Gore Recital Hall

String Quartet in Bb Major Op. 76 No. 4 (1796)  Franz Joseph Haydn
    Allegro con spirito
    Adagio
    Menuet, Allegro
    Finale, Allegro ma non troppo

Chorale from “The Art of the Fugue” BWV 1080 (1749)  J.S. Bach

Valencia (2012)  Caroline Shaw

Intermission

String Quintet No. 2 in Bb Major Op. 87 (1845)  Felix Mendelssohn
    Allegro vivace
    Allegretto scherzando
    Adagio e lento
    Allegro molto vivace
The Calidore String Quartet

Performances of the Calidore String Quartet are renowned for their “deep reserves of virtuosity and irrepressible dramatic instinct” (New York Times). Their unique “balance of intellect and expression” (Los Angeles Times) is complemented by the feeling that “four more individual musicians are unimaginable, yet these speak, breathe, think and feel as one” (Washington Post). After over a decade of performances and residencies in the world’s most esteemed venues and festivals, the release of numerous critically acclaimed recordings and lauded with significant awards, the Calidore String Quartet is recognized as one of the world’s foremost interpreters of a vast repertory; from the cycles of quartets by Beethoven and Mendelssohn to works of celebrated contemporary voices like Grygory Kurtag, Jörg Widmann and Caroline Shaw.

Highlights of the 23-24 season include appearances at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and People’s Symphony in NYC as well as concerts in Seattle, Palm Beach, Ottawa, Toronto, United Kingdom, Estonia and Germany. The Calidore team up with pianist Gabriela Montero for a world premiere of her new piano quintet at the Gilmore Piano Festival (MI) and also enjoy collaborations with the violist Matthew Lipman and harpist Bridget Kibbey.

Their recent album release of the Beethoven’s Late Quartets (Signum Records) received numerous accolades from Gramophone, The Strad, Strings Magazine and others. BBC Music Magazine bestowed a five-star rating and concluded, “The players have clearly thought long and hard about these masterpieces of the string quartet repertoire, and they have produced performances that can stand comparison with the best.” Their complete Beethoven cycle recording is due for release in the 24/25 season.

The New York City based Calidore String Quartet regularly concertize in major venues throughout North America, Europe, and Asia such as Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall, Kennedy Center, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Berlin Konzerthaus, Brussels BOZAR, Cologne Philharmonie, Seoul’s Kumho Arts Hall, and at significant festivals including the BBC Proms, Verbier, Ravinia, Mostly Mozart, Music@Menlo, Rheingau, and Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

The Calidore has given world premieres of works by Caroline Shaw, Han Lash, Huw Watkins and Mark-Anthony Turnage among others. Its collaborations with
esteemed artists and ensembles include Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Marc-André Hamelin, Joshua Bell, David Shifrin, Inon Barnatan, Lawrence Power, Sharon Isbin, David Finckel and Wu Han.

The Calidore was mentored by some of the most revered personalities and performers of the international chamber music scene including the Emerson Quartet, Quatuor Ébène, Andre Roy, Arnold Steinhardt, David Finckel, Günter Pichler, Guillaume Sutre, Paul Coletti, and Ronald Leonard.

Dedicated teachers and passionate supporter of music education, the Calidore String Quartet is committed to mentoring and educating young musicians, students, and audiences. The Calidore serve on the faculty of the University of Delaware School of Music and as artistic directors of the University of Delaware Chamber Music Series. Formerly, they served as artist-in-residence at the University of Toronto, University of Michigan and Stony Brook University.

Recipient of a 2018 Avery Fisher Career Grant and a 2017 Lincoln Center Emerging Artist Award, the Calidore String Quartet first made international headlines as winner of the $100,000 Grand Prize of the 2016 M-Prize International Chamber Music Competition. The quartet was the first and only North American ensemble to win the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship, was a BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artist, and is currently in residence with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

The Calidore String Quartet was founded at the Colburn School in Los Angeles in 2010. Within two years, the quartet won grand prizes in virtually all the major US chamber music competitions, including the Fischoff, Coleman, Chesapeake, and Yellow Springs competitions, and it captured top prizes at the 2012 ARD International Music Competition in Munich and the International Chamber Music Competition Hamburg. An amalgamation of “California” and “doré” (French for “golden”), the ensemble’s name represents its reverence for the diversity of culture and the strong support it received from its original home: Los Angeles, California, the “golden state.”

Their instruments:
Jeffrey Myers plays a violin by Francesco Rugeri c.1680, owned by a private benefactor on loan through the Leonhard Fellowship and plays a bow by Francois Tourte.

Ryan Meehan plays a violin by Vincenzo Panormo c.1775 and a bow by Joseph Henry.

Jeremy Berry plays a viola by Umberto Muschietti from the year 1903. He plays a bow by Pierre Simon.

Estelle Choi plays a cello by Charles Jacquot c.1830.

**Tanner Menees, Viola**

Born in Orange, CA in 1993, Violist Tanner Menees is forging an enviable career as a chamber musician. Mr. Menees has collaborated in chamber music performances with a range of notable artists including Miriam Fried, Lynn Harrell, Frans Helmerson, Gary Hoffman, Kim Kashkashian, Laurence Lesser, Danny Phillips, Marcy Rosen, Mitsuko Uchida, and Donald Weilerstein.

Tanner Menees has performed internationally at festivals such as the Marlboro Music Festival, Ravinia’s Steans Music Institute, Caramoor Evnin Rising Stars, Chamberfest Cleveland, Menuhin Festival String Academy, Edinburgh Music Festival, Juilliard String Quartet Seminar, and with NEXUS Chamber Music Chicago. Menees has performed as a soloist with the Colburn Orchestra under maestro Thierry Fischer and with Symphony New Hampshire. Menees is featured in Mike Grittani’s video, Dreaming of Boccherini, shot in Guarneri Hall as part of the NEXUS Chamber Music Festival in 2019.

Tanner received his Bachelor of Music degree and Artist Diploma from the Colburn School, where he studied with Paul Coletti. Later he studied with Kim Kashkashian at the New England Conservatory where he earned a Master of Music degree. Tanner plays on a viola of the Tarasconi school made in Milan, Italy c. 1880 courtesy of Guarneri Hall NFP and Darnton & Hersh Fine Violins.