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Student String Quartet

Eve Stolt Violin Illinois State University

Elizabeth Losch Violin

Jennifer Bledsoe Viola

Vianne Carey Cello

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ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

presents the

STUDENT STRING QUARTET

EVE STOLT, Violin
ELIZABETH LOSCH, Violin
JENNIFER BLEDSOE, Viola
VIANNE CAREY, Cello

8:15 p.m.

May 24, 1968

Centennial Lecture Hall

PROGRAM

Quartet in C Major, K. 157 W. A. Mozart

The Quartet in C Major, K. 157, was composed in 1772 when Mozart was only sixteen years old.

It appears to have been written in the divertimento style, as was much of the chamber music of the eighteenth century.

The Quartet in C Major is quite unusual because it consists of only three movements, rather than the traditional four movements of a string quartet. It lacks the usual minuet which was raditional with quartets of the classic period.

As was customary in this period, the first violin carries he melodic line in most of the quartet, with the second violin erving as an important accompanying voice, moving in thirds with, or in imitation of, the first violin. The viola and cello serve primarily by providing the harmonic and rhythmic accompaniment to the first and second violins. It is interesting to note that Mozart uses rapid pulsations in the cello to disguise the lack of harmonic movement.

This quartet is a good example of the light, gay style so ypical of Mozart's music.

-Intermission-

Quartet in E^b Major, Op. 12 Felix Mendelssohn

Adagio non troppo, Allegro non tardante Canzonetta Andante espressivo Molto allegro e vivace

. . . .

Mendelssohn wrote his $E^{\rm b}$ string quartet in 1827 when he was only sixteen years old, and yet the mature composer stands revealed. Though he wrote the quartet at an early age, he was already following the Romantic trends of his time.

The brief slow introduction presents the two quiet, but not highly contrasted themes and the gracious, well-bred character.

The first movement is melodious throughout. The second movement, the canzonetta, or "little song," is a charming, impetuous section, replacing the classical minuet movement, even though it comes before the andante which, in this quartet, is the third movement.

Mendelssohn used the Classical forms, but he adapted them beautifully to the Romantic style.

Many scholars of music consider this one of his two best quartets.

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