



Presenting

*Absolute Zero Viola Quartet*

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## What are they?

This is not just another string quartet: None of them are young, dyed blonde, or particularly slim, and they *never* pout at their audiences, nor (you will be happy to hear) do they wear revealing garments. However, most importantly, *they all play the viola!* Viola quartets are considerably rarer animals.

**Absolute Zero Viola Quartet** have been playing as a group since 1995, and in that time have amassed an impressive library of viola quartet repertoire, embracing a wide and eclectic range of genre, guaranteed to delight any audience, be they first-timers or seasoned veteran concert attendees.

## Who are they?



**Richard Crabtree** is a confirmed and incurable violaholic. His early career was spent with several of the great British orchestras and ensembles. Also, as a soloist he has recorded for BBC Radio 3, 4, BBC TV, ITV, Channel 4, Classic FM and Greek RTA. He teaches at Bristol University and is on the faculty of Bath and Goldsmiths Universities, coached and given master classes in Korea, Spain, Italy and France. He plays on a fine 18th century Viola by Nathaniel Cross, London, Fecit 1731. In his free time he likes playing the viola – says it all, really.

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**Cecily Howick** Cecily studied at the Royal College of Music, London, at the same time as Ross, and frequently met him over the years when she regularly freelanced with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. She had previously held posts in the Bournemouth Orchestra and BBC Concert Orchestra before moving to the idyllic Malvern hills to continue her work as freelance violist and teacher. Cecily enjoys rehearsing with the group, particularly the coffee breaks and a chance to catch up with her colleagues; comparing notes (not always musical ones), and generally putting the world to rights. Traditionally, much rehearsal time is devoted to putting the world to rights - it really should be taught as a speciality subject at music college.

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**Rachel Wilkes** studied at Trinity College, London, with the ubiquitous Richard Crabtree. Then, returning to her beloved Bristol, she worked with various UK orchestras, including the BBC National Orchestra of Wales (where she first met Ross Cohen), Bournemouth Sinfonietta, and the English String Orchestra. She has also participated in numerous recordings for TV, and a season in Les Miserables at the Bristol Hippodrome. As she has a natural immunity to viola jokes, it makes her the perfect player for Absolute Zero Viola Quartet.

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**Ross Cohen** trained at the Royal College of Music, winner of the famous Cobbett Prize for chamber music composition, used to be in a professional string quartet, joined the Hallé Orchestra, eventually defecting to BBC Wales in the early eighties. For a while he was Principal viola of The Welsh Sinfonia but, putting all that behind him, he now plays viola quartets for a living. He thinks conductors and flat-packs are the work of the Satan.



## What sort of music can you expect to hear?

Here is our current repertoire list, yet it continues to expand both in size and range of genre as we pursue our commitment to the viola ensemble and its repertoire. As you browse through we guarantee you will be pleasantly surprised.

<u>Composer</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Approximate timings</u>
<b>Zequinha Abreu</b> 1880-1935	Tico-tico no fubá	3'20"
<b>Tomaso Albinoni</b> 1671-1751	Sinfonia in D (3 movements)	9'00"
<b>Emanuel Adriaenssen</b> 1554-1624	Alamande for viola ensemble	2'50"
<b>Constanzo Antegnati</b> 1549-1624	La Battera	3'00"
<b>Carl P. E. Bach</b> 1714-1788	Quartet in A minor	5'20"
<b>Johann Sebastian Bach</b> 1685-1750	Alla Duodecima	4'10"
	Andante	4'55"
	Contrapunctus	4'00"
	Cum Sancto Spiritu	5'20"
	Minuet and Badinerie	3'00"
	Gigue for viola quartet	4'50"
	Prelude Adagio	3'30"
	Prelude and Fugue in C minor	4'00"
	Quartet Sonata	5'50"
Three Fantasias for viola quartet	12'00"	
<b>Bálint Bakfark</b> 1507-1576	Two Fantasias for viola ensemble	19'30"
<b>Simon Bainbridge</b> 1952	Birthday Fragment	3'00"
<b>Adriano Banchieri</b> 1568-1634	La Feliciana	2'30"
<b>Ludwig van Beethoven</b> 1770-1827	Allegretto from Symphony No.7	7'30"
	Arietta Variations	18'00"
	Boogie	2'23"
	Coriolan Overture	8'00"
	Für Elise for viola quartet	2'30"
	Für Elise (plus) for viola quartet	4'00"
	Irish Album (10 songs)	25'00"
	Prometheus Overture	4'50"
	Quartet Op. 111	8'45"
	Rondo (from piano concerto No.1)	9'10"
	Rondo a Capriccio	7'20"
	Satz für Bratschenquartett	3'30"
	Scottish Album (10 songs)	22'00"
	Serenade for viola quartet (7 mvts.)	30'00"
	Symphony No.5	33'45"
Variations (from 9th Symphony)	13'05"	
<b>John Bennet</b> 1575-1614	Madrigal	2'40"
<b>Hector Berlioz</b> 1803-1869	Fugue à trois Sujets	4'45"
	Hungarian March	5'00"

	Hymn pour l'élévation	4'20"
	Les Nuits D'ete (6 movements)	30'00"
	Reverie et Caprice	8'10"
<b>Heinrich Ignaz Biber 1644-1704</b>	Harmonia Artificia – Ariosa	17'00"
<b>Georges Bizet 1838-1875</b>	Cavatina for viola quartet	9'00"
	La Fleur que tu m'avais jetée	3'30"
	L'Arlésienne (4 movements)	17'40"
	Menuetto	3'30"
<b>Luigi Boccherini 1743-1805</b>	Sonatina (3 movements)	10'20"
<b>Alexander Borodin 1833-1887</b>	Nocturne	7'20"
	Polka for viola quartet	2'30"
<b>Edwin York Bowen 1884-1961</b>	Fantasie for Four Violas	10'30"
<b>William Boyce 1711-1779</b>	Introduction and Allegro	4'00"
<b>Johannes Brahms 1833-1897</b>	Adagio from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Symphony	7'30"
	Appassionata Op. 120	5'40"
	Four Hungarian Dances	10'00"
	Poco Allegretto (from 3rd Symphony)	6'10"
	Quartet in A Minor	5'50"
	Variations on a theme by Haydn	18'30"
<b>Thomas Brewer 1611-1660</b>	Pavin for four violas	3'45"
<b>Frank Bridge 1899-1903</b>	Cradle Song	2'30"
	Kol Nidrei	8'05"
	Moro Perpetuo	1'46"
	Romanze	7'00"
	Suite four viola quartet (3 movements)	12'00"
<b>Max Bruch 1838-1920</b>	Adagio on a Celtic Melody	8'00"
	Romanze for viola quartet	7'00"
	Quartet Concerto (3 movements)	19'00"
<b>Anton Bruckner 1824-1896</b>	Fantasie for viola quartet	7'10"
	March (from 4th Symphony)	17'00"
	Prelude in D minor	1'15"
<b>Benedikt Brydern 1966</b>	Pedestrian Crossing	5'00"
<b>avid Burndrett 1978</b>	Tasty Tango for Viola Quartet	2'20"
<b>George Butterworth 1885-1916</b>	The Banks of Green Willow	6'00"
<b>Dietrich Buxtehude 1637-1639</b>	Passacaglia for four violas	7'00"
<b>William Byrd 1540-1620</b>	Suite for viola quartet (5 movements)	30'00"
<b>Girolamo Cavazzoni 1525-1577</b>	Canzoni	8'00"
<b>Emmanuel Chabrier 1841-1894</b>	Baureé Fantasque	5'35"
	Danse Villageoise	5'10"
<b>Marc-Antoine Charpentier 1643-1704</b>	Concerto pour quatre parties de violes	13'00"
<b>Amédée-Ernest Chausson 1855-1899</b>	Quelques Danses Op.26 (4 movements)	15'30"
<b>Luigi Cherubini 1760-1842</b>	Sonatina for viola quartet	9'30"
<b>Fryderyk Chopin 1810-1849</b>	Fantasy	15'40"
	Polska	7'00"

<b>Arcangelo Corelli</b> 1653-1713	Christmas Concerto (6 movements) Four Concerti for Viola Quartet	15'00" 13'50"
<b>François Couperin</b> 1668-1733	Les Baricades Mystérieuses	2'30"
<b>Jean Courtois</b> fl.1530-45	Vire, vire jan	2'00"
<b>Claude-Achille Debussy</b> 1862-1918	Clair de Lune Petite Suite (4 movements) Three Pieces for Viola Quartet	5'30" 13'40" 9'30"
<b>Léo Delibes</b> 1836-1891	Pizzicati for viola quartet	2'00"
<b>Frederick Delius</b> 1862-1834	Sonatina	12'15"
<b>Carl D. von Dittersdorf</b> 1739-1799	Noturno for four violas (3 movements)	13'00"
<b>John Dowland</b> 1563-1626	In Darkness Let Me Dwell	3'50"
<b>Antonín Dvořák</b> 1841-1904	Capriccio Dumka Elegie Largo, from the New World Scherzo from the New World Song to the Moon	3'00" 3'30" 3'45" 9'00" 8'00" 5'00"
<b>Edward Elgar</b> 1857-1934	Adagio (from 1st Symphony) Five Pieces for viola quartet "Nimrod" for viola quartet Romance for bassoon and viola quartet Three Charming Viola Quartets Viola Quartet Concerto (4 movements)	10'30" 32'00" 3'00" 4'10" 9'00" 25'15"
<b>Sancho Engaño</b> 1922-1995 (associate composer)	The Art of Pizzicato (6 movements) Bach for Oscar Bach in the Dark Beads for voice and viola quartet Blues Suite (4 movements) Dance Suite (5 movements) El Rezo del Soldado Fanfarria Fugal Schmugal Happy Classical Birthday Heading for Home Hello Sailor Hurdy-Gurdy Insomnio Noche de Música Polkadotty Spanish Quartet Tap Dance Tricksy Pizzi Two Canons	18'15" 2'10" 1'30" 12'15" 19'00" 26'00" 4'10" 2'10" 5'00" 7'00" 7'00" 5'00" 2'10" 3'30" 1'55" 3'30" 4'00" 2'20" 2'50" 14'35"
<b>Manuel de Falla</b> 1876-1946	Pièces Espagnoles (4 movements)	16'40"
<b>Giles Farnaby</b> 1563-1640	Four Pieces for viola quartet	12'00"
Johann Friedrich Fasch 1688-1758	Sonatina for viola quartet (4 mvts.)	9'00"
<b>Gabriel Fauré</b> 1845-1924	Fantasie for Viola Quartet (2 mvts.) Four Pieces for Viola Quartet Pavane Requiem Quartet (7 movements)	5'00" 9'30" 5'10" 33'00"
<b>César Franck</b> 1822-1890	Two Melodies for viola quartet	5'40"

<b>Giovanni Gabrieli</b> 1557-1612	Sonata XXI In Ecclesiis Quattro Canzoni	4'15" 8'00" 11'50"
<b>Claude Gervaise</b> 1540-1560	Pavane – La Venissiene	4'00"
<b>Alexander Glazunov</b> 1865-1936	Theme and Variations	9'30"
<b>Mikhail Glinka</b> 1804-1857	Rondino Brillante Ruslan and Ludmila Overture	6'15" 5'20"
<b>Christopher Gluck</b> 1714-1787	Pizzicato	1'00"
<b>Louis Moreau Gottschalk</b> 1829-1869	Le Bananier	4'10"
<b>Charles Gounod</b> 1818-1893	Marche Pontificale Two Romances for viola quartet	3'00" 7'10"
<b>Enrique Granados</b> 1896-1916	Three Spanish Dances	12'30"
<b>Edvard Grieg</b> 1843-1907	Four poetic tone pictures	7'00"
<b>Stanley Grill</b>	Transfiguration (4 movements)	
<b>Giovanni Battista Grillo</b> 16th c.-1622	Three Canzoni for viola ensemble	12'00"
<b>Georg Friederic Handel</b> 1695-1759	Larghetto in F Major Overture from Alexander's Feast "Messiah" Concerto for four violas Music for the Royal Fireworks (6 movements) Saraband Sinfonia (4 movements)	5'00" 5'50" 15'45" 14'15" 7'20" 8'00"
<b>Joseph Haydn</b> 732-1809	The Joke (from Op.33, No.2) Largo (from Op.76, No.5) Romance for Viola Quartet Serenade The Surprise Quartet (4 movements) Viola Quartet in D major (3 movements)	3'30" 7'22" 4'30" 5'00" 25'00" 15'00"
<b>Gustav Holst</b> 1874-1934	A Fugal Quartet Jupiter Suite for viola quartet (3 movements)	7'55" 8'15" 10'45"
<b>Johann N. Hummel</b> 1778-1837	Potpourri for Viola Quartet	20'20"
<b>Irish Traditional</b>	The Drunken Sailor The Green Groves of Erin A Hard Road to Travel Rolling on the Ryegrass Sheahan's Reel	4'20" 3'10" 4'10" 4'20" 3'30"
<b>Leos Janáček</b> 1854-1928	Zdenka Variations	9'10"
<b>Scott Joplin</b> 1867-1917	Ragtime Dance Weeping Willow	3'31" 3'17"
<b>Friedrich Kalkbrenner</b> 1785-1849	Rondo for Viola Quartet	8'15"
<b>Rodolphe Kreutzer</b> 1766-1831	Number Two (arr. Engaño)	1'45"
<b>Edouard Lalo</b> 1823-1892	Guitare Two Folk Melodies	3'20" 5'50"
<b>Orlando di Lassus</b> 1530-1594	Matona mia cara Pensieri di pace	4'20" 4'40"

<b>Jean-Marie Leclair</b> 1697-1764	Saraband and Tambourin	6'40"
	Tambourin for viola quartet	2'45"
<b>Franz Lehár</b> 1870-1948	Hungarian Fantasy	7'40"
<b>Franz Liszt</b> 1811-1886	Csárdás Macabre	8'00"
<b>Pietro Antonio Locatelli</b> 1695-1764	Sinfonia Funebre (5 movements)	15'00"
<b>Patrick Loiseleur</b> 1975	Râga n°1 bis for viola quartet	6'30"
<b>Hamish MacCunn</b> 1868-1916	Hornpipe for viola quartet	2'00"
<b>Gustav Mahler</b> 1860-1911	Kindertotenlieder (5 movements)	24'00"
	Ländler (from First Symphony)	8'40"
	Trauermarsch	10'00"
<b>Marin Marais</b> 1659-1728	Suite for viola quartet (5 movements)	12'00"
<b>Florentio Maschera</b> 1540–1584	Canzona	3'33"
<b>Jules Massenet</b> 1842-1912	Élégie for viola quartet	2'00"
	Meditation from Thaïs	4'44"
	Suite for viola quartet (4 movements)	24'00"
<b>Felix Mendelssohn</b> 1809-1847	Fingal's Cave	11'00"
	March for Viola Quartet	6'10"
	Rondo	5'00"
	Scherzo	5'00"
	Sinfonia in B flat major (3 movements)	12'40"
	Sinfonia in D major (3 movements)	10'45"
	Symphony No. 4 "The Italian" (4 mvts)	30'00"
	Viola Quartet in C minor (3 mvts)	26'00"
<b>F. Mendelssohn-Hensel</b> 1805-1847	Viola Quartet in G Minor (3 movements)	10'20"
<b>Thomas Morley</b> 1558-1602	Canzonetta	2'45"
<b>Wolfgang A. Mozart</b> 1756-1791	Adagio in F Minor	4'20"
	Allegro Spiritoso	4'30"
	Fugue K.173	3'50"
	Overture to Don Giovanni	5'45"
	Romance K 466	9'15"
	Rondo Alla Turca	3'45"
	The Magic Flute Fantasy	16'00"
	Symphony Number 40 (4 movements)	50'00"
	Viola Quartet in C Major	7'22"
	Viola Quartet in C Minor	8'15"
<b>Modest P. Mussorgsky</b> 1839-1881	Pictures at an Exhibition	32'00"
	Souvenir D'Enfance	4'10"
	Three pieces for viola quartet	9'30"
<b>Ulrich Nehls</b> 1959	Slicky Slide Swing	3'00"
<b>Carl Nielsen</b> 1865-1931	Romance	3'20"
	Six Miniatures for viola quartet	9'00"
	Three Melodies	17'30"
<b>Ottokar Nováček</b> 1866-1900	Bulgarian Dances for viola quartet (8 movements)	11'00"
<b>Johann Pachelbel</b> 1653-1706	Fantasia in C Minor	2'15"
	Fugue in D Minor	4'50"
	Gigue for four violas	2'00"
<b>Giovanni Palestrina</b> 1525-1594	Four pieces for viola ensemble	15'00"

<b>Niccolò Paganini</b> 1782-1840	La Campanella Moto Perpetuo Rondo	5'15" 5'30" 9'45"
<b>Charles H. H. Parry</b> 1848-1918	Lady Radnor's Suite (6 movements)	15'00"
<b>Giovanni B. Pergolesi</b> 1710-1736	Larghetto for viola quartet	4'00"
<b>Michael Praetorius</b> 1571-1621	Bransle de Villages Fantasia	5'00" 11'30"
<b>Sergei Prokofiev</b> 1891-1953	Visions Fugitives (4 movements)	4'00"
<b>Giacomo Puccini</b> 1858-1924	Due Canzoni Lente	10'45"
<b>Henry Purcell</b> 1659-1695	Fantazia Pavane and Chaconne Three Fantasias for viola quartet	7'40" 12'30" 10'00"
<b>Sergei Rachmaninoff</b> 1873-1943	Canon for Viola Quartet Polka for Viola Quartet Vocalise for Viola Quartet	2'10" 4'10" 5'00"
<b>Jean-Philippe Rameau</b> 1683-1764	Les Indes Galantes (8 dances)	20'00"
<b>Maurice Ravel</b> 1875-1937	Suite Pour Quatre Altos (5 movements) Valses Nobles et Sentimentales (8 mvts.)	12'45" 14'50"
<b>Ottorino Respighi</b> 1879-1936	Antiche Danze ed Arie (4 movements) Rhapsody	16'00" 10'00"
<b>Nikolay Rimsky-Korsakov</b> 1844-1908	Flight of the Bumble-bee In the Monastery Variations and Fugue	1'15" 6'10" 8'30"
<b>Salomone Rossi</b> 1570-1630	Canzon	4'00"
<b>Gioachino A. Rossini</b> 1570-1630	Andante and Variations The Barber of Saville Overture Semiramide Overture William Tell Overture	8'30" 7'35" 7'40" 11'00"
<b>Albert Roussel</b> 1869-1937	Prelude and Fugue	4'40"
<b>Camille Saint-Saëns</b> 1835-1921	Danse Macabre Two Fugues for viola quartet	7'30" 9'40"
<b>Pablo de Sarasate</b> 1844-1908	Zepateado	4'00"
<b>Erik Satie</b> 1866-1925	Jack in the box (3 movements) Quatre Morceaux Lents (4 movements)	6'20" 15'00"
<b>Domenico Scarlatti</b> 1685-1757	Sonata in F Suite for viola quartet (4 movements)	5'30" 13'30"
<b>Franz Schubert</b> 1797-1828	'Arpeggione' Quartet (3 movements) Moments Musicaux (6 movements) Overture in the Italian Style Symphony No.8 (2 movements) Tarantelle	24'30" 26'00" 8'30" 26'45" 8.00
<b>Clara Schumann</b> 1819-1896	Viola Quartet in three movements	11'00"
<b>Robert Schumann</b> 1810-1856	Märchenbilder for viola quartet (4 movements) Suite (5 movements) Symphony No.3 (5 movements)	15'15" 14'00" 30'00"



<b>Alexander Scriabin</b> 1872-1915	Two Mazurkas for viola quartet	3'15"
<b>Bedřich Smetana</b> 1824-1884	Dance of the Comedians	6'30"
	Five waltzes for viola quartet	9'00"
	Fugue for viola quartet	2'15"
<b>Ethel Mary Smyth</b> 1858-1944	Viola Quartet in A Minor	8'00"
<b>John Philip Sousa</b> 1854-1932	The Liberty Bell March	5'50"
	Two melodies	5'45"
<b>Johann Strauss I</b> 1804-1849	Lorelei Rheinklänge	9'20"
	Radetzky March	3'00"
<b>Johann Strauss II</b> 1825-1899	The Blue Danube Waltz	10'00"
	Die Fledermaus Overture	8'50"
	Violetta	3'10"
<b>Richard Strauss</b> 1864-1949	Bratschenquartett (3 movements)	16'00"
<b>Franz von Suppé</b> 1819-1895	Pique Dame	8'40"
<b>Tielman Susato</b> 1510-1570	Il etait une fillett	2'00"
	Six Dances for viola ensemble	7'00"
<b>Thomas Tallis</b> 1505-1585	Album for Viola Quartet	25'00"
<b>Giuseppe Tartini</b> 1692-1770	Adagio Cantabile	4'30"
	Viola Quartet in C minor (3 movements)	11'40"
<b>Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky</b> 1840-1893	1812 Overture	15'00"
	Andante Semplice	10'00"
	Aveu Passionné	4'00"
	Canzona from 4th Symphony	9'10"
	Czardas from Swan Lake	3'00"
	Manfred (1st mvt.)	16'00"
	Seranata (from 2nd piano concerto)	13'15"
	Suite for viola quartet (4 movements)	13'40"
	Valse Sentimentale	6'00"
	Waltz from Swan Lake	8'10"
	Winter Daydreams	11'30"
<b>Georg Philipp Telemann</b> 1681-1767	4 Concerti à 4 Viole	33'00"
	Viola quartet in G major	14'40"
	Don Quixote Suite (8 movements)	18'00"
<b>Various Composers</b>	Christmas Album for Viola Quartet (20 songs)	75'00"
<b>Guiseppe Verdi</b> 1813-1901	Ave Maria	3'45"
	Nocturne for viola quartet	3'30"
	Requiem Fantasy	24'00"
<b>Ángel Gregorio Villoldo</b> 1861-1919	Four Tangos for viola quartet	9'30"
<b>Antonio Vivaldi</b> 1678-1741	Concertino for Viola Quartet (3 mvts.)	6'00"
	Et Misericordia	3'45"
	Largo from 'Winter'	1'45"
	Sinfonia per quattro viole (3 mvts.)	10'40"
	Viola Quartet in C Minor	7'00"
<b>Richard Wagner</b> 1813-1883	Prelude	5'20"
	Romanze	5'00"
	Viola Quartet in C Major (3 movements)	35'40"
<b>Geoffrey Walker</b>	Absolute Zero Rag	4'34"
	Loco Motif	5'00"
	Paganini Fireworks	11'40"

<b>Thomas “Fats” Waller</b> 1904-1943	Effervescent for viola quartet	4'20
<b>Peter Warlock</b> 1894-1930	Capriol Suite (6 movements)	10'00”
<b>Carl Maria von Weber</b> 1786-1826	Andante & Hungarian Rondo Concertino for viola quartet	10'00” 8'30”
<b>Thomas Weelkes</b> 1576-1623	Pavan for four violas	3'00”
<b>Welsh traditional</b>	Suo Gân	3'10”
<b>Henryk Wieniawski</b> 1835-1880	Reverie	8'00”
<b>John Wilbye</b> 1574-1638	Six Madrigals for Viola Quartet	15'00”



Hear a sample of our playing (and lots more) on our website:  
[www.absolutezeroviola4.com](http://www.absolutezeroviola4.com)

## Bookings

**Absolute Zero Viola Quartet** can be booked to perform recitals and host workshops, tailoring to all ages and abilities of string playing. We guarantee you won't be disappointed.

Get in touch, speak to us in person. It will be a pleasure to hear from you.

### Contact us

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