



Presenting

Absolute Zero Viola Quartet

email: info@absolutezeroviola4.com
website: www.absolutezeroviola4.com
telephone: 44 (0)29 2076 3892



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>
Zequinha Abreu 1880-1935	Tico-tico no fubá	3'20"
Tomaso Albinoni 1671-1751	Sinfonia in D (3 movements)	9'00"
Emanuel Adriaenssen 1554-1624	Alamande for viola ensemble	2'50"
Constanzo Antegnati 1549-1624	La Battera	3'00"
Carl P. E. Bach 1714-1788	Quartet in A minor	5'20"
Johann Sebastian Bach 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"	
Bálint Bakfark 1507-1576	Two Fantasias for viola ensemble	19'30"
Simon Bainbridge 1952	Birthday Fragment	3'00"
Adriano Banchieri 1568-1634	La Feliciana	2'30"
Ludwig van Beethoven 1770-1827	Allegretto from Symphony No.7	7'30"
	Arietta Variations	18'00"
	Boogie	2'23"
	Coriolan Overture	8'00"
	Finale from the 9th Symphony	24'00"
	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"	
John Bennet 1575-1614	Madrigal	2'40"
Hector Berlioz 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"
Heinrich Ignaz Biber 1644-1704	Harmonia Artificia – Ariosa	17'00"
Georges Bizet 1838-1875	Cavatina for viola quartet	9'00"
	La Fleur que tu m'avais jetée	3'30"
	L'Arlésienne (4 movements)	17'40"
	Menuetto	3'30"
Luigi Boccherini 1743-1805	Sonatina (3 movements)	10'20"
Alexander Borodin 1833-1887	Nocturne	7'20"
	Polka for viola quartet	2'30"
"Lili" Boulanger 1893-1918	Deux Morceaux pour quatuor d'altos	6'00"
Edwin York Bowen 1884-1961	Fantasie for Four Violas	10'30"
William Boyce 1711-1779	Introduction and Allegro	4'00"
Johannes Brahms 1833-1897	Adagio from 2 nd 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"
Thomas Brewer 1611-1660	Pavin for four violas	3'45"
Frank Bridge 1899-1903	Cradle Song	2'30"
	Kol Nidrei	8'05"
	Moro Perpetuo	1'46"
	Romanze	7'00"
	Suite four viola quartet (3 movements)	12'00"
Max Bruch 1838-1920	Adagio on a Celtic Melody	8'00"
	Romanze for viola quartet	7'00"
	Quartet Concerto (3 movements)	19'00"
Anton Bruckner 1824-1896	Fantasie for viola quartet	7'10"
	March (from 4th Symphony)	17'00"
	Prelude in D minor	1'15"
Benedikt Brydern 1966	Pedestrian Crossing	5'00"
avid Burndrett 1978	Tasty Tango for Viola Quartet	2'20"
George Butterworth 1885-1916	The Banks of Green Willow	6'00"
Dietrich Buxtehude 1637-1639	Passacaglia for four violas	7'00"
William Byrd 1540-1620	Suite for viola quartet (5 movements)	30'00"
Girolamo Cavazzoni 1525-1577	Canzoni	8'00"
Emmanuel Chabrier 1841-1894	Baureé Fantasque	5'35"
	Danse Villageoise	5'10"
Marc-Antoine Charpentier 1643-1704	Concerto pour quatre parties de violes	13'00"
Amédée-Ernest Chausson 1855-1899	Quelques Danses Op.26 (4 movements)	15'30"
Luigi Cherubini 1760-1842	Sonatina for viola quartet	9'30"
Fryderyk Chopin 1810-1849	Fantasy	15'40"
	Polska	7'00"

Arcangelo Corelli 1653-1713	Christmas Concerto (6 movements) Four Concerti for Viola Quartet	15'00" 13'50"
François Couperin 1668-1733	Les Baricades Mystérieuses	2'30"
Jean Courtois fl.1530-45	Vire, vire jan	2'00"
Claude-Achille Debussy 1862-1918	Clair de Lune Petite Suite (4 movements) Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune Three Pieces for Viola Quartet	5'30" 13'40" 9'00" 9'30"
Léo Delibes 1836-1891	Pizzicati for viola quartet	2'00"
Frederick Delius 1862-1834	Sonatina	12'15"
Carl D. von Dittersdorf 1739-1799	Noturno for four violas (3 movements)	13'00"
John Dowland 1563-1626	In Darkness Let Me Dwell	3'50"
Antonín Dvořák 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"
Edward Elgar 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"
Sancho Engaño 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"
Manuel de Falla 1876-1946	Pièces Espagnoles (4 movements)	16'40"
Giles Farnaby 1563-1640	Four Pieces for viola quartet	12'00"
Johann Friedrich Fasch 1688-1758	Sonatina for viola quartet (4 mvts.)	9'00"
Gabriel Fauré 1845-1924	Fantasie for Viola Quartet (2 mvts.) Four Pieces for Viola Quartet Madrigal, Opus 35 Pavane Requiem Quartet (7 movements)	5'00" 9'30" 4'00" 5'10" 33'00"
César Franck 1822-1890	Two Melodies for viola quartet	5'40"

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

Jean-Marie Leclair 1697-1764	Saraband and Tambourin	6'40"
Franz Lehár 1870-1948	Tambourin for viola quartet	2'45"
	Hungarian Fantasy	7'40"
Franz Liszt 1811-1886	Csárdás Macabre	8'00"
Pietro Antonio Locatelli 1695-1764	Sinfonia Funebre (5 movements)	15'00"
Patrick Loiseleur 1975	Râga n°1 bis for viola quartet	6'30"
Hamish MacCunn 1868-1916	Hornpipe for viola quartet	2'00"
Gustav Mahler 1860-1911	Kindertotenlieder (5 movements)	24'00"
	Ländler (from First Symphony)	8'40"
	Trauermarsch	10'00"
Marin Marais 1659-1728	Suite for viola quartet (5 movements)	12'00"
Florentio Maschera 1540–1584	Canzona	3'33"
Jules Massenet 1842-1912	Élégie for viola quartet	2'00"
	Meditation from Thaïs	4'44"
	Suite for viola quartet (4 movements)	24'00"
Felix Mendelssohn 1809-1847	Fingal's Cave	11'00"
	March for Viola Quartet	6'10"
	Perpetuum Mobile	3'00"
	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"
F. Mendelssohn-Hensel 1805-1847	Viola Quartet in G Minor (3 movements)	10'20"
Thomas Morley 1558-1602	Canzonetta	2'45"
Wolfgang A. Mozart 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"
Modest P. Mussorgsky 1839-1881	Pictures at an Exhibition	32'00"
	Souvenir D'Enfance	4'10"
	Three pieces for viola quartet	9'30"
Ulrich Nehls 1959	Slicky Slide Swing	3'00"
Carl Nielsen 1865-1931	Romance	3'20"
	Six Miniatures for viola quartet	9'00"
	Three Melodies	17'30"
Ottokar Nováček 1866-1900	Bulgarian Dances for viola quartet (8 movements)	11'00"
Johann Pachelbel 1653-1706	Fantasia in C Minor	2'15"
	Fugue in D Minor	4'50"
	Gigue for four violas	2'00"
Giovanni Palestrina 1525-1594	Four pieces for viola ensemble	15'00"

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

Alexander Scriabin 1872-1915	Two Mazurkas for viola quartet	3'15"
Bedřich Smetana 1824-1884	Dance of the Comedians	6'30"
	Five waltzes for viola quartet	9'00"
	Fugue for viola quartet	2'15"
Ethel Mary Smyth 1858-1944	Viola Quartet in A Minor	8'00"
John Philip Sousa 1854-1932	The Liberty Bell March	5'50"
	Two melodies	5'45"
Johann Strauss I 1804-1849	Lorelei Rheinklänge	9'20"
	Radetzky March	3'00"
Johann Strauss II 1825-1899	The Blue Danube Waltz	10'00"
	Die Fledermaus Overture	8'50"
	Violetta	3'10"
Richard Strauss 1864-1949	Bratschenquartett (3 movements)	16'00"
Franz von Suppé 1819-1895	Pique Dame	8'40"
Tielman Susato 1510-1570	Il etait une fillett	2'00"
	Six Dances for viola ensemble	7'00"
Thomas Tallis 1505-1585	Album for Viola Quartet	25'00"
Giuseppe Tartini 1692-1770	Adagio Cantabile	4'30"
	Viola Quartet in C minor (3 movements)	11'40"
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky 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"
Georg Philipp Telemann 1681-1767	4 Concerti à 4 Viole	33'00"
	Viola quartet in G major	14'40"
	Don Quixote Suite (8 movements)	18'00"
Various Composers	Christmas Album for Viola Quartet (20 songs)	75'00"
Guiseppe Verdi 1813-1901	Ave Maria	3'45"
	Nocturne for viola quartet	3'30"
	Requiem Fantasy	24'00"
Ángel Gregorio Villoldo 1861-1919	Four Tangos for viola quartet	9'30"
Antonio Vivaldi 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"
	Suite in D Minor (4 movements)	14'00"
	Viola Quartet in C Minor	7'00"
Richard Wagner 1813-1883	Prelude	5'20"
	Romanze	5'00"
	Viola Quartet in C Major (3 movements)	35'40"
Geoffrey Walker	Absolute Zero Rag	4'34"
	Loco Motif	5'00"

	Paganini Fireworks	11'40"
Thomas "Fats" Waller 1904-1943	Effervescent for viola quartet	4'20
Peter Warlock 1894-1930	Capriol Suite (6 movements)	10'00"
Carl Maria von Weber 1786-1826	Andante & Hungarian Rondo Concertino for viola quartet Romance	10'00" 8'30" 7'00"
Thomas Weelkes 1576-1623	Pavan for four violas	3'00"
Welsh traditional	Suo Gân	3'10"
Henryk Wieniawski 1835-1880	Reverie	8'00"
John Wilbye 1574-1638	Six Madrigals for Viola Quartet	15'00"



Hear a sample of our playing (and lots more) on our website:
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

by email:	info@absolutezeroviola4.com
by phone:	44 (0)1283 331801
via our website:	www.absolutezeroviola4.com
Manager: Alison Thomas	07816 309689
Librarian: Ross Cohen	44(0)29 2076 3892