



# ADORATIONS

ISIDORE STRING QUARTET

HAYDN | BARBER | MENDELSSOHN | PRICE

*This album is dedicated to the life and legacy of  
Joel Krosnick (1941 – 2025).*

*Joel taught us to be fearless. His unwavering belief in  
the Isidore String Quartet gave us the courage to remain true to ourselves  
and to be bold in our music-making. A life devoted to exploring oneself through  
art, he lived and breathed music – embodying  
the true meaning of what it is to be an artist, a mentor, and a friend.  
His contagious energy continues to inspire us to see music through a  
lens of pure joy and humility, and we are all better musicians – and  
better people – for having known him.*

*A smile that will be missed, a curiosity that will continue  
to inspire, and an impact that will last forever.*

*Thank you, Mr. Krosnick,  
for everything.*

# ADORATIONS

*Adorations* is a celebration of chamber music at its essence – a tapestry of joy, human connection, and the enduring resonance of lives intertwined.

Each work on the album reflects a unique form of adoration, offering its own expression of wonder, reverence, and the profound beauty of shared musical experience. Haydn's Op. 20 No. 2 sparkles with wit, warmth, and crystalline imagination, reshaping the very architecture of the string quartet and pointing boldly toward the future, while Barber's *Adagio* rises like a single breath held in time, its long, suspended phrases glowing with tender ache and offering a catharsis that is both cleansing and profoundly human. Mendelssohn's Op. 44 No. 3 shimmers with youthful brilliance, composed shortly after his marriage – a time of personal joy and

emotional fulfillment that infused his music with warmth, elegance, and expressive confidence. Its radiant expression reveals a composer delighting in life, blending technical mastery with a newfound intimacy and exuberance, while Florence Price's *Adoration* is a brief yet luminous prayer, unfolding in warm, graceful lines that breathe with quiet devotion and gentle, uplifting serenity.

*Adorations* is a love letter to chamber music: to the solace it offers, the wonder it awakens, and the countless ways it has shaped, sustained, and inspired our lives.

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# ISIDORE STRING QUARTET

The New York City-based Isidore String Quartet, winner of the 14th Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2022 and an Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2023, is committed to rediscovering and reinvigorating the repertory. Formed at The Juilliard School in 2019 and coached by the Juilliard String Quartet, it follows Juilliard's lineage by "approaching the established as if it were brand new, and the new as if it were firmly established."

The Isidore String Quartet is distinguished by a refined and balanced ensemble sound, anchored by supreme technical proficiency. After its victory at Banff, the group was catapulted into the international scene with live performances in over 90 cities each season, including New York, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco, Amsterdam, Pittsburgh, Seattle, Toronto, Cologne, and Vancouver. It has collaborated with eminent artists such as violinist James Ehnes and pianist Jeremy Denk.

Highlights of the quartet's 2025-26 season include debuts at the Philharmonie de Paris, London's Wigmore Hall, and the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. Building on its close relationship with composer Billy Childs, it premieres his String Quartet No. 4, written for the ensemble, at Middlebury College. The group also gives the world premiere of James Lee III's *Humanity's Essential Gems* at Peoples' Symphony Concerts in New York, joined by clarinetist Anthony McGill; collaborates with cellist Sterling Elliott in Santa Barbara; and performs at Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Baltimore's Shriver Hall Concert Series, and the 92nd Street Y, New York.

The Isidore String Quartet is deeply invested in connecting with youth and elderly populations, and with marginalized communities who otherwise have

limited access to high-quality live music performance. The quartet was the inaugural Arts Leadership Ensemble for Project: Music Heals Us, a nonprofit that brings music to people in hospitals, prisons, centers for people with disabilities, and homeless shelters.

The name “Isidore” pays homage to one of the Juilliard Quartet’s early members, the legendary violinist Isidore Cohen. The Isidore String Quartet was coached by current and former members of the Juilliard Quartet, including Joseph Lin, Astrid Schween, and the late Joel Krosnick and Roger Tapping. It also trained with Joseph Kalichstein, Laurie Smukler, and Misha Amory, among other distinguished musicians.

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Creativity, Rolston Recital Hall, CA,  
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Recording Producer: Theresa Leonard

Recording Engineer: Ben Ewing

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Executive Producer: Timothée van der Stegen

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## ISIDORE STRING QUARTET

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Phoenix Avalon,  
Adrian Steele  
*violin*

Devin Moore  
*viola*

Joshua McClendon  
*cello*

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### JOSEPH HAYDN (1732 – 1809)

**String Quartet in C major, Op. 20 No. 2** 20:46

1. Moderato 7:00
2. Capriccio: Adagio 7:12
3. Menuetto: Allegretto 3:03
4. Fuga a 4 soggetti: Allegro 3:27

### SAMUEL BARBER (1910 – 1981)

5. **Molto adagio** (from String Quartet, Op. 11) 7:20

### FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809 – 1847)

**String Quartet in E flat major, Op. 44 No. 3** 32:45

6. Allegro vivace 9:56
7. Scherzo: Assai leggero e vivace 4:06
8. Adagio non troppo 9:50
9. Molto allegro con fuoco 8:51

### FLORENCE PRICE (1887 – 1953)

10. **Adoration** 3:11  
arranged for string quartet by Samuel Araya (b. 1986)

**Total Time**

**64:02**