



## Sacconi Quartet String Quartet

*"An exceptional ensemble... a unanimous sense of musical breath and a meticulous attention to detail."* Musical Opinion

Website [www.sacconi.com](http://www.sacconi.com)

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Ben Hancox *violin*

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Robin Ashwell *viola*

Cara Berridge *cello*

For twenty years, the Sacconi Quartet have been captivating audiences with their unanimous and compelling ensemble, consistently communicating with a fresh and imaginative approach. Formed in 2001, the four founder members continue to demonstrate a shared passion for string quartet repertoire, infectiously reaching out to audiences with their energy and enthusiasm. The Sacconi enjoy a busy international career and are Quartet in Association at the Royal College of Music and Quartet in Residence in Folkestone.

The Sacconis' prolific recording career covers a broad swathe of repertoire from Haydn to present day. Their latest album features world premiere recordings of works by Roxanna Panufnik; other releases of recent years include premiere recordings of works by Jonathan Dove, Graham Fitkin and John McCabe. *In Damascus*, their CD of music by Jonathan Dove, hit the Classical Top Ten, and was chosen as one of Gramophone Magazine's Recordings of the Year.

In November the Sacconi celebrated twenty years of playing together, with a celebration birthday concert at the Wigmore Hall. Firm advocates of new music, the programme featured the world premiere of their latest piece from Jonathan Dove, *On the Streets and In the Sky*. They also continue to tour with *Beethoven in the Dark*, their immersive performance of Beethoven's op.131 quartet entirely from memory, in almost complete darkness.

The Sacconi Quartet is Quartet in Residence for the town of Folkestone and its surrounding areas, enabling creative collaborations with local artists and projects, and an embedded outreach programme. The Sacconi Chamber Music Festival in Folkestone is firmly established among the UK's major chamber music festivals and attracts audiences from far and near for its vibrant atmosphere and dynamic programming.

In 2021, the quartet released an exclusive film of Jonathan Dove's *Out of Time* on Amazon with all proceeds going to Hands Up Foundation, a young and innovative charity that delivers aid directly and effectively to Syrians in need. The Quartet is indebted to the Royal Society of Musicians and Ellen Solomon for the use of their instruments.

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