

Press release // 7<sup>th</sup> May 2016  
**BORDEAUX INTERNATIONAL  
STRING QUARTET COMPETITION 2016**

Beautiful vintage for the Bordeaux Competition  
1<sup>st</sup> Grand Prize: Quatuor Akilone (France)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Mettis Quartet (Lithuania)

The 8<sup>th</sup> Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition ended on 7 May with a thrilling final showcasing 4 quartets: Omer (*USA*) - Mettis (*Lithuania*) - Berlin-Tokyo (*Japan / Israël*) - Akilone (*France*).

The 2016 competition was judged by a jury of international musicians, chaired by Italian violist Bruno Giuranna... **Sylvie Gazeau** (violin), France, **Ayako Tanaka** (violin), Japan, **Hans Egidi** (viola), Germany, **Stefan Metz** (cello), The Netherlands, **Helena Poggio** (cello), Spain, **Alain Planès** (piano), France.

**The jury awarded the following prizes:**

**1<sup>ST</sup> GRAND PRIZE: Quatuor Akilone** (France) - € 20,000.00

International concert tour: 3 July 2016 = Holland - August 2016 (1 day tbc) = France - 17 September 2016 = Belgium - 9 November – 27 November 2016 = Belgium, Italy - 7 March 2017 = France - 14 March 2017 = Germany - June 2017 (7/10 days tbc) = Japan - 5 July – 16 July 2017 = France, United Kingdom - August 2017 (5/7 days tbc) = France - 23 September – 10 October 2017 = France, United Kingdom - 3 November – 28 November 2017 = Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary  
Plus: possible dates in Estonia in 2017, and France & Croatia in Summer 2018.

*NB: all the above dates are subject to contract and change*

**PRIZE ProQuartet European Centre Chamber Music:**

**Quatuor Akilone** (France)

The 1<sup>st</sup> Grand Prix winners are invited to a masterclass of their choice among those offered by the institution.

**2<sup>nd</sup> PRIZE: Mettis Quartet** (Lithuania) - € 10,000.00

**SPECIAL MEGEP PRIZE:** ex aequo **Quatuor Mettis** (Lithuania) and **Rolston Quartet** (Canada- South Korea)

special prize of € 4,000.00 is awarded to the best performance of one of Lucien Durosoir's quartets

**PRIZE Mrs. Irène Steels-Wilsing:**

**Berlin-Tokyo Quartet** (Japan, Israel) - € 2,000.00

**Special Prize awarded by a group of anonymous donors:**

**Omer Quartet** (USA) - € 2,000.00

**Prize of Jeunesses Musicales Deutschland:**

**Moa Quartet** (South Korea)

Scholarship for participating in the International Chamber Music Campus Schloss Weikersheim - August 24 – September 4 2016

Teachers: Belcea Quartet, Dirk Mommertz (Fauré Quartet), Heime Müller (Artemis Quartet), Hariolf Schlichtig (Cherubini Quartet)

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Grand Prix had not been awarded to a French Quartet since the Quatuor Psophos won it in 2001.**

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The final of the Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition will be broadcast on *France Musique* on 15 May at 15.30, on Stéphane Goldet's programme: "Plaisirs du Quatuor"



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**According to Chairman Bruno Giuranna, speaking on behalf of the jury:**

*The overall level of this competition was extraordinary... and that is heartening. The jury was very harmonious. Even if we sometimes had diverging opinions, there was no tension and we managed to reach an agreement. We had a good working atmosphere and, in the end, all the members of the jury agreed unanimously on the award winners... which is not always the case in competition juries.*

*I am delighted to have had the opportunity to hear such high-level musicians! I would particularly like to thank my colleagues on the jury, together with Alain Meunier, whom I would also like to thank and congratulate on the organization of this competition, as well as everyone who contributed to the success of this international event\*.*

From left to right and from top to bottom: Akilone (France) - Mettis (Lithuania) - Rolston (Canada - South Korea) Moa (South Korea) - Omer (USA) - Berlin-Tokyo (Japan / Israël)



\*Directeurs: Bernard Lummeaux et Alain Meunier  
Consultante internationale: Francesca Zini  
Délégué Général: Laurent Ginoux.

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## Akilone (France)

**Emeline Concé, Elise De-Bendelac:** violons - **Louise Desjardins:** viola / **Lucie Mercat:** cello

The members of the Akilone string quartet, with four eclectic, sparkling personalities, met at the CNSM in Paris in 2011. Inspired by the Italian word "aquilone", meaning "kite", their name is evocative of a link between earth and sky, a shared pleasure, as well as a colourful flight of the imagination. The Akilone quartet is keen to continue training under great musicians, like V. Mendelssohn, H. Beyerle, J. Meissl, M. Da Silva, and J. Pernoo, as well as the Ebène, Rosamunde, and Debussy quartets. They have just returned from a four-month musical immersion in J. Meissl's class in Vienna, Austria. They have also played in many concerts in France and abroad. This year, the 4 musicians continue to receive Adami scholarships.

[www.quatuorakilone.com](http://www.quatuorakilone.com)

### FIRST ROUND

F. Schubert, Quartet No. 12 in c minor, D. 703 "Quartettsatz"  
F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy, String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 13

### SECOND ROUND

M. Ravel, String Quartet in F major  
L. van Beethoven, String Quartet No. 8 in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2

### FINAL ROUND

B. Bartók, String Quartet No. 6  
I. Stravinsky, Three Pieces for String Quartet  
W. A. Mozart, String Quartet No. 14 in G major, K. 387



## Berlin-Tokyo (Israel/Japan)

**Tsuyoshi Moriya, Dimitri Pavlov:** violons / **Eri Sugita:** viola / **Ruiko Matsumoto:** cello

The Quartet Berlin-Tokyo was founded in 2011 by students of the two conservatories in Berlin. Only a few months later, they celebrated initial success at the International Music Competition of the ARD in Munich 2012 when awarded the Prize of the Jeunesses Musicales Germany.

In 2013, the Quartet obtained the Second Prize at the International "Salieri Zinetti" Competition in Verona as well as the Audience Prize, followed by the Second Prize of the Young Concert Artists Audition New York in 2014. In the same year, the ensemble won the First Prize and again an Audience Award at the Orlando International String Quartet Competition the Third Prize at the prestigious "Franz Schubert" competition in Graz and recently the Second Prize and the "Best interpretation of Carl Nielsen" Prize at the "Carl Nielsen International Chamber Music Competition" in Copenhagen.

Previously, the Quartet Berlin-Tokyo received several scholarships, including scholarships from the Matsuo Academic Foundation Tokyo and Otilie Selbach Redslob Foundation. In October 2014, the ensemble was awarded with a scholarship by the Irene Steels-Wilsing Foundation and in 2015 they became "HSBC Laureates" of the "Aix en Provence" Festival, France.

The members of the Quartet-Berlin Tokyo are currently attending the class of Oliver Wille (Kuss Quartet) at the Academy of Music, Drama and Media Hanover. Moreover, the young ensemble has received musical inspiration from David Alberman, Andrés Keller, Gerhard Schulz, Hartmut Rohde, Jean-Guihen Queyras, Heime Müller, the Artemis Quartet, and the Arditti Quartet.

The Quartet Berlin-Tokyo was given its name at the suggestion of Toshio Hosokawa in the course of an invitation to the Takefu International Music Festival. But there is more to the name than reference to these two metropolises; it is rather about a path running between them – and this is precisely the issue the young artists are engaged with. It is therefore not coincidental that they feel committed to the music of Béla Bartók and his striving for a synthesis between East and West.

The ensemble has performed at numerous national and international concert venues, including the Hamburg Laeiszhalle, the Berlin Philharmonic, and the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. In addition, the four young musicians were invited to renowned festivals such as the Oslo Chamber Music Festival, the Takefu International Music Festival, and the Heidelberger Frühling.

Over the next three years, the Quartet will also perform in its first residence six concerts in the new concert hall of Rokkatei in Sapporo.



[www.quartetberlintokyo.com](http://www.quartetberlintokyo.com)

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### FIRST ROUND

F. Schubert, String Quartet No. 12 in c minor, D. 703 "Quartettsatz"  
F. J. Haydn, String Quartet Op. 76 No. 3 in C major "Emperor"  
E. Schulhoff, Five Pieces for String Quartet (mouv. 1, 2, 3, 5)

### SECOND ROUND

F. J. Haydn, String Quartet Op. 33 No. 4 in B flat major  
I. Stravinsky, Three Pieces for String Quartet  
B. Bartók, String Quartet No. 5

### FINAL ROUND

J. Brahms, String Quartet in A minor, Opus 51, no. 2  
G. Kurtág, Hommage à Mihály András, 12 microludes for string quartet, Op. 13  
L. van Beethoven, String Quartet No. 11 in F minor, Op. 95 "Serioso"

## Mettis (Lithuania)

**Kostas Tumosa, Bernardas Petrauskas**, violons / **Karolis Rudokas**, viola / **Rokas Vaitkevičius**, cello

Metis is ancient Greek mythological figure, Oceanid from the Titans' generation. The Greek word metis meant quality that combined wisdom, cunning and skills. Mettis quartet was founded in 2011, professors' Augustinas Vasiliauskas string quartet class of Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre (LAMT).

All members – Kostas Tumosa (violin), Bernardas Petrauskas (violin), Karolis Rudokas (viola) and Rokas Vaitkevičius (cello) – are laureates of many republican and international competitions. They



regularly perform solo, chamber music concerts, participates in various projects, masterclasses and in general are active persons of Lithuanian musical life. From the first performances young and ambitious quartet was rated as one of the most perspective ensembles of LAMT. Mettis quartet regularly participates in masterclasses. They have worked with very famous European chamber music performers and professors: Johannes Meissl (Artis quartet, Austria), Hatto Beyerle (Alban Berg quartet, Austria), Avedis Koyoumdjian (piano, Austria), Miguel da Silva, Yovan Markovich (both Ysaye quartet, France), Petr Prause, Jan Talich (both Talich quartet, Czech Republic/England), Josef Kluson (Pražak quartet, Czech Republic), Evgenia Epshtein (Aviv quartet, Israel), Piotr Tarcholik (violin), Zdislaw Lapinski (cello) (both Poland), Paavo Pohjola (Finland). They have also worked with Per Lundberg (piano, Sweden) and Wolfgang Klos (viola, Austria). Because of successful performances in ISA'12 competition and concerts, quartet was awarded with Vienna's university of Arts Joseph Haydn institute prize. In 2012 autumn „Mettis“ was one of three perspective European quartets selected for the masterclasses in Villecroze academy of music (France), where they have worked with legendary Austrian pianist Alfred Brendel and Ysaye quartet viola player Miguel da Silva. In 2012 December they have won the 1st place and special prize in XII international Lithuanian chamber music performance competition in Vilnius and also were selected to represent the academy in Harnos'13 festival (Porto, Portugal), where they had three successful concerts.

In 2013 May "Mettis" have participated in European Festival of Music Academies (EFAM), where they represented LAMT. In 2013 June quartet was invited to take part in 49th Chamber music festival of Plovdiv (Bulgaria). Recently "Mettis" is intensively improving, preparing new programs and performing. In 2014 August they took part in ISA'14 masterclasses where they got awarded two prizes – chamber music and Gottfried von Einem foundation prize for outstanding interpretation of composers' string quartet. Since 2014 September "Mettis" are members of ECMA.

[www.facebook.com/MettisStringQuartet](http://www.facebook.com/MettisStringQuartet)

### FIRST ROUND

F. Schubert, Quartet No. 12 in c minor, D. 703 "Quartettsatz"  
B. Bartók, String Quartet No. 2  
L. van Beethoven, String Quartet No. 11 in F minor, Op. 95 "Serioso" (mouv. 2, 3)

### SECOND ROUND

C. Debussy, String Quartet in g minor, Op. 10  
D. Shostakovich, String Quartet No 3 in F major Op 73

### FINAL ROUND

L. Durosoir, String Quartet No. 2 in g minor  
I. Stravinski, Three pieces for string quartet  
R. Schumann, String Quartet Op. 41 No. 3 in A major

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## Moa (South Korea)

**Sehoon Ahn, Sanghee Ji**, violons / **Sangyoon Lee**, viola / **Jinho Hong**, cello

The Moa quartet was founded in 2014 with four Korean musicians.

They are currently studying at Hochschule für Musik Würzburg, Mainz with Prof. Denise Benda and Prof. Anne Shih. The quartet has attended the master class by Gabriel Le Magadure (Ebene Quartett).

The Moa quartet is having concerts already regularly in Germany, Italy, France and South Korea. Besides, they are attending and playing at Mozart Festival, the Casalmaggiore International Festival, and the Korea International Festival of Chamber Music.

### FIRST ROUND

F. Schubert, Quartet No. 12 in c minor, D. 703 "Quartettsatz"

A. Webern, Five movements for string quartet, Op. 5

F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy, String Quartet No. 2 Op.13 in A minor (mouv. 1, 2)

### SECOND ROUND

W. A. Mozart, String Quartet No. 15 in d minor, K. 421

I. Stravinsky, Three Pieces for String Quartet

J. Brahms, String Quartet Op. 51 No. 2 in a minor

### FINAL ROUND

M. Ravel, String Quartet in F Major

L. van Beethoven, String Quartet No. 8 in E minor, Op. 59, No. 2



## Omer (USA)

**Mason Yu, Erica Tursi**: violons / **Jinsun Hong**: viola - **Alexander Cox**: cello

Praised by UT San Diego for playing with a "sense of discovery and adventure, but also with considerable finesse," the Omer quartet was named the 2013 Grand Prize and Gold Medal winner of the 40th Fiscoff National Chamber Music Competition. As part of their award, they completed an 8-concert tour in the Midwest and made several concert appearances at the Emilia Romagna Festival in Italy. The quartet is currently the resident ensemble of the New England Conservatory's Professional Quartet Training Program directed by Paul Katz, a program which has shaped the artistic development of eminent young quartets such as the Jupiter, Parker, Ariel and Harlem Quartets.

Established at the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2009, the Omer Quartet has performed across North America and Europe in venues such as Jordan Hall, Preston Bradley Hall in Chicago's Cultural Center, Pollack Hall in Montreal, the Rolston Recital Hall at the Banff Centre, and several historic landmarks in Northern Italy. They have appeared on the WFMT radio network and the Aspen Public Radio. As guest artists, they have performed in the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts, the Cleveland Chamber Music Society, the Western Piedmont Symphony Chamber Classics Series, the Fontana Chamber Arts and the Palm Beach Atlantic University Distinguished Artist Series. During their time as the fellowship ensemble of La Jolla Music Society's SummerFest, the quartet collaborated and performed with internationally renowned artists such as Cho-Liang Lin and the Assad Brothers. In 2011, they were invited by the Banff Centre to give a world premiere of Bob Becker's Preludes for percussion and string quartet.

Committed to community education and advocates of civic engagement, the Omer Quartet devotes time to creating original and interactive programs. They were selected to represent Music For Food, a musician-led initiative for local hunger relief directed by Kim Kashkashian. As fellows, the quartet acts as ambassadors to local schools, bringing awareness and support to the student led fundraisers. They also perform and help in the organizations many concerts and projects. In addition the Omer Quartet was Cleveland Chamber Music Society's Quartet in Residence from 2012-2013, and has presented masterclasses across the country, including Midwest Young Artists, Valparaiso University, Palm Beach Atlantic University, and ensemble workshops with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras.

[www.omerquartet.com](http://www.omerquartet.com)

### FIRST ROUND

F. Schubert, Quartet No. 12 in c minor, D. 703 "Quartettsatz"

J. Haydn, String Quartet Op. 76 N° 5 in D major,

L. Janáček, String Quartet No. 1 « Kreutzer Sonata »

### SECOND ROUND

E. Grieg, String Quartet No. 2 in F major

G. Kurtág, Officium breve in memoriam Andrae Szervánszky, Op. 28

B. Bartók, String Quartet N° 1

### FINAL ROUND

C. Debussy, String Quartet in g minor, Op. 10

L. van Beethoven, String Quartet No. 7 in F major, Op. 59, N° 1



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## Rolston (Canada, South Korea)

Luri Lee, Jeffrey Dyrda: violons / Hezekiah Leung: viola - Jonathan Lo: cello

First prize winners of the Yellow Springs Competition, the Rolston String Quartet has performed throughout the United States, Canada, and France in venues such as the Kennedy Center, Harris Hall, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Koerner Hall, and the Auditorium de Bordeaux. Notable collaborations include performances with renowned artists Andrés Díaz, Gil Kalish, Mark Morris, Jon Kimura Parker, Barry Shiffman, and Miguel da Silva. Additionally they have worked with composers John Luther Adams and Brian Current.

Currently the Graduate Quartet-in-Residence at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, the quartet has also participated in residencies and fellowships at the Académie musicale de Villecroze, Aspen Music Festival, Banff Centre, Robert Mann String Quartet Institute, and the Yehudi Menuhin Chamber Music Festival. Mentored primarily by James Dunham, Norman Fischer, and Kenneth Goldsmith, they have received additional guidance from Steven Dann, Paul Kantor, Barry Shiffman, Miguel da Silva, Mark Steinberg, and Alastair Tait.

The Rolston String Quartet was formed in the summer of 2013 at the Banff Centre for the Arts' Chamber Music Residency. They take their name after the Canadian violinist Thomas Rolston, founder and longtime director of the Music and Sound Programs at the Banff Centre.

[www.facebook.com/rolstonsq](http://www.facebook.com/rolstonsq)

### FIRST ROUND

F. Schubert, Quartet No. 12 in c minor, D. 703 "Quartettsatz"

F. J. Haydn, String Quartet Op. 77 No. 1 in G major

B. Bartók, String Quartet No. 3

### SECOND ROUND

L. Durosoir, String Quartet No. 3 in b minor

F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy, String Quartet in D major Op. 44 No. 1

### FINAL ROUND

L. Janáček, String Quartet No. 2 "Intimate Letters"

L. Van Beethoven, String Quartet No. 8 in e minor, Op. 59 No. 2

