

Daylight Express

**ADELAIDE
FESTIVAL** **AF**
28 Feb – 16 Mar 2025

Tuesday 4 March, 12:30pm

Title: Affinity Quartet: Shostakovich and Beethoven

Duration: 1 hour, no interval

Performers: **Shane Chen**, violin
Nicholas Waters, violin
Josef Hanna, viola
Mee Na Lojewski, cello

Beethoven and Shostakovich were two of the most prolific composers for string quartet, and their message of humanity and healing is brought to life by the award-winning Affinity Quartet in their Adelaide debut. To mark the 50th anniversary of Shostakovich's death, Affinity performs his first String Quartet, an introspective work written in 1938 as the world stood on the edge of catastrophe.

Composed over a century prior in 1809, Beethoven's tenth Quartet is a product of the social and political upheaval of France's occupation of Austria. In refuge outside of Vienna, Beethoven composed one of his most lyrical, meditative and joyous works.

Program:

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906–1975)	String Quartet No.1 in C major	Op. 49	15'
	I. Moderato		
	II. Moderato		
	III. Allegro molto		
	IV. Allegro		
Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)	String Quartet No.10 Op.74 'Harp'		30'
	I. Poco adagio – Allegro		
	II. Adagio ma non troppo		
	III. Presto – Più presto quasi prestimssimo		
	IV. Allegretto on variazioni		

About Affinity Quartet

Affinity Quartet earns its place as one of the most outstanding string quartets of its generation. Recent awards include Grand Prize, String Quartet First Prize and Audience Prize at the 2023 Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition; 2nd prizes at Bad Tölz and Mozart International String Quartet Competitions (2023); and 3rd Prize at Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition (2022). Striving for synergy, intimacy and renewal in its form, Affinity Quartet represents excellence in Australian chamber music. Affinity Quartet is based between Australia and Europe, and receives mentorship from Günter Pichler (Alban Berg Quartet) at Madrid's International Institute of Chamber Music.