



**THE VINCA QUARTET** [www.vincaquartet.com](http://www.vincaquartet.com)

Hailed by The New York Times as “stunning” and “musicians worth keeping an eye on,” the Vinca Quartet is a charismatic young string quartet committed to forging bonds between audiences and performers by sharing their own passion for chamber music through the highest caliber performances. First Prize winners of the International Chamber Music Ensemble and laureates of the Premio Paolo Borciani International Quartet Competition, Plowman, Fischhoff, and Chesapeake International Chamber Music Competitions, the Quartet has been regularly featured on public radio in the US as well as on German National Radio. They have performed internationally for four years in major concert halls including Carnegie Hall, Vilar Hall in Colorado, Sprague Memorial Hall at Yale University, Aspen’s Harris Hall, Weikersheim Castle in Germany and les Invalides in Paris, France. The Quartet has appeared at the International Musician’s Seminar at Prussia Cove in Cornwall, England, the Juilliard Quartet Seminar, the Carnegie Hall Professional Workshops, Soundfest Chamber Music Festival, Deer Valley Music Festival, and Jeunesses Musicales Deutschland. Most recently, they were selected by ProQuartet to become the 2010 Quartet-in-Residence for the International Odyssee Program, an honor that will enable them to spend a month performing, attending master classes and researching musical education systems across France.

The Vinca Quartet received the honor of being appointed the first resident quartet to study and collaborate with the Tákaacs Quartet at the University of Colorado. Other collaborators and teachers have include the Artemis, Colorado, Emerson, Muir and Tokyo Quartets. They are currently under the mentorship of Pamela Frank, and will begin their tenure as Graduate Quartet-in-Residence at the Stuttgart Hochschule fuer Musik und Darstellende Kunst in the fall of 2010.

As part of their mission to serve communities overlooked by major classical groups, The Vinca Quartet has launched multiple in-depth educational programs and concert series. They are working with the school systems and adult communities in the Columbia River Gorge region of Oregon and Washington to create a program (Gorgeous Sounds Residency) bringing music into a largely agriculturally-based community. In 2007, they helped to establish Music Haven, a tuition-free strings and mentorship program devoted to transforming the lives of urban youth and their families in New Haven, CT through music.

## bio and quotes

*"Late Beethoven is not for the young, it is sometimes said, but what the Vinca Quartet did with Beethoven's A minor Quartet on Wednesday was stunning... Like Schubert's String Quintet in C, this music does seem to operate with one foot in another world. The slow movement's Lydian scale from ancient times (think of the key of F with B natural instead of B flat) creates soft cadential landings that have barely touched ground before they float off again. The Vinca musicians are worth keeping an eye on."*

— **Bernard Holland, NY Times**

*"The Vincas came to Fort Bragg and conquered our hearts and our minds...with grand elegance and virtuosity..."*

— **Jay Sydeman, KZYX radio and former chair of composition at the Mannes College of Music**

*"The group has transformed itself into what we consider a major new ensemble. [They] play with an honesty, sincerity and insightfulness that engages us fully."*

— **Michael Reynolds, Muir String Quartet**

**KINOBE** [www.kinobemusic.com](http://www.kinobemusic.com)

Kinobe (*chi-no-bé*) is an accomplished musician from Uganda whose early abilities in traditional African music quickly garnered acclaim on the world stage. Kinobe started played music at the age of 5, and soon began playing alongside Africa's greatest musicians, including Youssou Ndour, Salif Keita, Baaba Maal, Angelique Kidjo and many more.

In 2007, he released his debut album, *Soul Language*, which reflects

his roots in traditional Ugandan acoustic music.



Kinobe has given concerts and workshops all over Europe, the U.S. and Canada. He returns to the US in 2010 for a ten-month tour performing solo and in various new collaborations. He is excited to work with the Vinca Quartet. This project allows him to introduce the sounds and instruments from his homeland to new audiences, and to develop new repertoire for world music lovers.

*Some of the most exquisite music coming out of Africa today. Sublime and peaceful.* — **Zina Saro-Wiwa, BBC**

*Kinobe represented the largest turnout to date for the September Explosion. The performance was great and the interaction with the audience proved to be not only entertaining, but educational. The residency was indeed a success!* — **Dr. Sebronette Barnes, Cheney University**

**CONTACT: Margie T. Farmer, Class Acts on Tour**  
[mtfarmer@classactsontour.com](mailto:mtfarmer@classactsontour.com)  
 410-374-9059 • 252-202-0865