

BIOGRAPHY OF STRING QUARTET MERAKI - RESIDENTAL QUARTET OF JM SERBIA BELGRADE

String quartet Meraki was founded by Violeta Ćirić, Nada Šarković, Ena Vaganek and Magdalena Matić and they have been performing together since 2020. Since its founding Meraki quartet has held more than 60 performances in Serbia (Belgrade, Novi Sad, Kragujevac, Smederevska Palanka, Arilje, Vršac, Negotin, Sombor) and abroad (Norway, Austria, Malta, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France), both individual concerts and as part of several festivals. Their most prominent performances include concerts in the big hall of Kolarac Endowment as part of concert series Belgrade promenade (2022, 2023), SKC (2021, 2022, 2023), Gvarnerius as part of concert series FMU and Gvarnerius awards (2021, 2022), performances in music festivals ARLEMM (2021, 2022), Toppenkurset and Festspillene Helgeland in Norway (2022, 2023), Chamber music festival in Vršac (2022, 2023), Art Occupation in Sombor (2022), Malta Piano Academy (2022), Prkos Fest in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2023), and others. They cooperated with pianists Milica Lawrence, Ana Ćuković, Nicholas Carthy, Kristina Sočanski.

As the only Serbian quartet, together with 37 other quartets from 27 European countries, the quartet was chosen in 2023 to join the MERITA platform, the Creative Europe project. As part of the project, and with the cooperation of the ProQuartet organization, the quartet had a training at an artistic residency in France with mentors Francesca Bonato and Violaine Fournier. In 2024, at the International Chamber Music Competition "Olivera Đurđević " won the first prize (category winners). The quartet was also awarded a concert by Radio Beograd 2 as a part of the concert series: Season of Young artists. In addition to the before mentioned, the Meraki quartet also worked with professors Nataša Petrović, Mirjana Nešković, Ladislav Mezei, Tomasz Pokrzywinski and Vida Vujić.

The members of the ensemble are currently enrolled at the Doctoral academic studies at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade, Chamber music department, under mentorship of professor Katarina Popović.

