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ENGEGÅRD QUARTET

Arvid Engegård	Violin
Alex Robson	Violin
Juliet Jopling	Viola
Jan Clemens Carlsen	Cello

Formed under the midnight sun in Lofoten in 2006, the Engegård Quartet has rapidly become one of Norway's most sought after ensembles. Their bold, fresh interpretations of the classical repertoire combined with a deep attachment to their Scandinavian roots has attracted international acclaim, and inspired some innovative partnerships and programming. The quartet's debut CD was praised as 'breath-taking' in The Strad, while their second release won Pizzicato magazine's 'Supersonic Award'. More recently, a CD of works by Grieg, Sibelius and Olav Anton Thommessen was praised by Tully Potter in Music Web International as 'what Grieg lovers have been waiting for'.

The Engegård Quartet has a busy concert schedule throughout Scandinavia and further afield. They have performed in some of Europe's finest venues including the Mozarteum in Salzburg and Prague's Rudolfinum, and last year travelled to South America for concerts in Bogotá and São Paulo. Festival performances include the Delft Chamber Music Festival, SoNoRo Festival in Bucharest, and Heidelberg's Streichquartettfest. Members of the quartet are also deeply involved in bringing superb chamber music to Norway – Arvid Engegård as founder of the Lofoten International Chamber Music Festival, and Juliet Jopling as artistic director of the Oslo Quartet Series.

The Engegård Quartet has had the honour to work with (among others) András Schiff, Leif Ove Andsnes, Christian Ihle Hadland, and Emma Johnson. They also love to collaborate with colleagues from different musical traditions, including a folk/classical fusion with hardanger fiddler Nils Økland, and a programme of Ibsen and late Beethoven with actor Bjørn Sundquist. Future plans include a new work written by and performed with jazz violinist Ola Kvernberg and an annual 'mini-festival' focusing on one composer each year, starting with Schumann. 'Schumann på 1-2-3' is scheduled for autumn 2016 and promises to be a feast of chamber music, song, piano works, poetry, discussions and lectures.

The Engegård Quartet is supported by the Norwegian Arts Council.

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