



Image: Catalyst Quartet, photo by Ricardo Quiñones
Image: Herman Cornejo, photo by Lucas Chilczuk

Catalyst Quartet

2022-2023 Quartet in Residence

Impacto with Herman Cornejo

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 7 pm
The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium

Catalyst Quartet

Karla Donehew Perez, violin
Abi Fayette, violin
Paul Laraia, viola
Karlos Rodriguez, cello

Herman Cornejo, choreographer and dancer

Erica Cornejo, dancer

Quartet in Residence programming is made possible by the Grace Jarcho Ross and Daniel G. Ross Concert Fund. Additional support is provided by the Adrienne Arsht Fund for Resilience through Art and the Arnhold Fund for Dance Innovation at The Met.

MetLiveArts thanks the Center for Ballet and the Arts at New York University for providing rehearsal space for this program.

Notes on the Program

We are thrilled to unveil *Impacto* for MetLiveArts, not only because of the wonderful music on the program but because it continues our collaborative relationship with the incredible Herman Cornejo. We first worked with Herman on tango-inspired dance works as artists in residence at the Vail International Dance Festival. There, a seed was planted about developing a future piece together. Of the Catalyst Quartet's many arrangements, the *Suite del Ángel* of Astor Piazzolla remains one of our favorites. We can't wait to present all of the incredible music on this program and are so grateful to be able to unveil this world premiere collaboration as a part of our residency with MetLiveArts.

—Catalyst Quartet

When I was appointed to create a piece for *Impacto* at The Met on Piazzolla's *Suite del Ángel*, an idea I already had of working with his music came full circle. His compositions are a compound of popular musical styles and social traditions born in New York and Buenos Aires alike. I happen to have a deep connection with both these places as well and could relate to Piazzolla's music through this ground of identification.

I thought of the *Suite del Ángel* in terms of an internal struggle of someone who is in Buenos Aires. But it could also be in New York. These big cities are where people usually come to fulfill their dreams, many alone, and end up having to face the challenges of a competitive, sometimes impersonal society. Short-cuts, bad decisions, the fine line of what is good and what's not, appear in the background. I believe that as human beings we usually encounter situations and circumstances that make us reflect on our multiple facets.

This character I envisioned succumbs to his own demons in a lonely room, but really wants to dominate the dark side he feels is monopolizing his life, all those negative, dark sentiments surfacing constantly during his life in the megalopolis, this place that threatens to swallow his humanity every step of the way.

There is a melancholic scent to it. However, very much in tune with Piazzolla's tango style, the piece presents a bright twist at the end.

—Herman Cornejo

Program

Sonata para cordas “O burrico de pau” (The Wooden Donkey)

Antônio Carlos Gomes (1836–1896)

Allegro animato
Allegro scherzoso
Largo – Adagio lento e calmo
Vivace

String Quartet in B minor

Teresa Carreño (1853–1917)

Allegro
Andante
Scherzo: Allegro ma non troppo
Allegro risoluto

— PAUSE —

The Apartment

Music by Astor Piazzolla (1921–1992)
Suite del Ángel (arranged by Catalyst Quartet)

Herman Cornejo, choreography
Herman Cornejo and Erica Cornejo, dancers
Alban Sardzinski, lighting design
Elsa Edit Schenone, costume design

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