PROGRAM

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)
Quartet No. 2 in C Major, Op. 36
  Allegro calmo senza rigore
  Vivace
  Chacony: Sostenuto

Intermission

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)
Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 130, “Liebquartett”
  Adagio ma non troppo; Allegro
  Presto
  Andante con moto, ma non troppo
  Alla danza tedesca: Allegro assai
  Cavatina: Adagio molto espressivo
  Grosse Fuge: Allegro (Op. 133)

Recognized for its virtuosity, exuberance and often daring repertory choices, the Pacifica Quartet has won several of chamber music’s top competitions, including the Naumburg Chamber Music Award and the Avery Fisher Career Grant. In 2009, the quartet received the Grammy Award for Best Chamber Music Performance and was named Musical America’s Ensemble of the Year. Formed in 1994, the group is based in Bloomington, Indiana. It serves as quartet-in-residence at Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music, where its members are also on the faculty. They are also resident performing artists at the University of Chicago, and have served similar roles at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the University of Illinois.

The Pacifica Quartet has established itself as a widely-praised interpreter of string quartet cycles, including performances of Carter, Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Shostakovich. In 2008, the Quartet released its Grammy Award-winning recording of Carter’s quartets Nos. 1 and 5 and followed up with quartets Nos. 2, 3 and 4 in 2009. In 2012, Pacifica released the second of three volumes comprising the entire Shostakovich cycle. Members of the quartet also perform many new works, including those by Keeril Makan and Shulamit Ran.