

# Music at Noon hosts Bretano

by Adria Kovaly  
Collegian Staff



On Wednesday, March 27, the Wintergarden was once again filled with the sound of classical music as the Bretano String Quartet took the stage as part of the Music at Noon series.

The Bretano String Quartet was the 1995 winner of the Naumburg Chamber Music award and has been featured on "Great Performers at Lincoln Center." The quartet has also teaching residencies at Princeton University and Middleburg College. It is currently the quartet-in-residence at New York University.

The quartet is made up of Mark Steinberg and Serena Canin, violins, Misha Amory, viola, and Michael Kannen, cello. Named after Antonie Brentano, who was supposedly Beethoven's "immortal beloved," they perform pieces spanning from Joseph Haydn, the "father of the string quartet" to Charles Wuorinen, who is said to be "one of today's best and most-important composers."

For their Wednesday performance, the quartet opened with String Quartet in E Flat, Op. 71 #3, by Haydn, a lively

piece, well suited for the spring weather (That is, assuming we HAD spring weather).

They then moved on to the two movements of Claude Debussy's String Quartet in G Minor, Op.

10. As explained by Serena in the piece's introduction, the first movement was very Spanish sounding at it's open, flowing into a slower portion, then speeding up again to a almost

cartoon-like sound. The second portion was rather soft and mournful, but more soothing than depressing. The pace picked up toward the middle of the piece, but didn't lighten the mood,

keeping it soft and slow.

They then moved on to a movement by Wuorinen, String Quartet #2. This piece, while supposed to have a jazzy feel, seemed to me to be very discordant until the ending "flutters" in.

The Quartet ended with a finale by Felix Mendelssohn, String Quartet in D Major, Op. 44 #1. This piece had an almost roller coaster feel, with a lively beginning, reminding me of waves or raindrops, until it slows. The tempo fluctuates once more until the song's end, which is on a rather upbeat note.

This was a performance I thoroughly enjoyed and one I hope all those who attended did as well. If you missed the Quartet's performance and would like to hear them perform, they will be recording three pieces by composer Bruce Adolphe this summer. And if you would like to attend the next installment of the Logan Wintergarden series, performing will be the Meridian Arts Ensemble on Tuesday, April 16.



# Stone can't carry "Diabolique"

by Sarah Melchiorre  
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A little bit of male bashing goes a long way in "Diabolique." This film stars Sharon Stone as Nicole Horner and Isabelle Adjani as Mia Barano.

"Diabolique" is a film with a different feel than your average film. All of the lead characters are women and the plot complexity adds to the thrill of

this thriller.

Although I liked the film I really can't tell people to go see this without feeling guilty. I thought it was going to be a lot different than it was. The preview I saw for "Diabolique" gives the film a slightly different tone. Not to mention Stone's performance is lackluster.

The beginning of the film may cause some confusion. The sequence of events prevents us

from "getting it" until the very end. By the end you can guess what's going on. The plot is derived from a French film with a similar name.

Stone and Adjani are friends who teach a private boys school. Both are involved with the same man, Adjani's husband Guy, played by Chazz Palmitari, who's a real S. O. B. The love triangle is quite interesting and provides entertainment. The

women hatch a plan to kill Guy because he is such a mean, evil person.

Kathy Bates plays Shirley Vogal, a police detective (There is always one in a murder mystery/thriller). She adds a little comedy while talking with Mia (Adjani) about marital splits and fights, Shirley (Bates) explains, "It's men...testosterone...they should put it in bombs."

Overall, you can sit through "Diabolique" and be entertained, but don't expect to be fascinated or overwhelmed by great acting.

**Diabolique notes:** Sharon Stone didn't win in her bid for an Oscar for "Casino." The Meadville native was shutout in her bid for best actress. Bates starred in the Stephen King thriller, "Misery." Adjani is making her American big-screen debut.

