

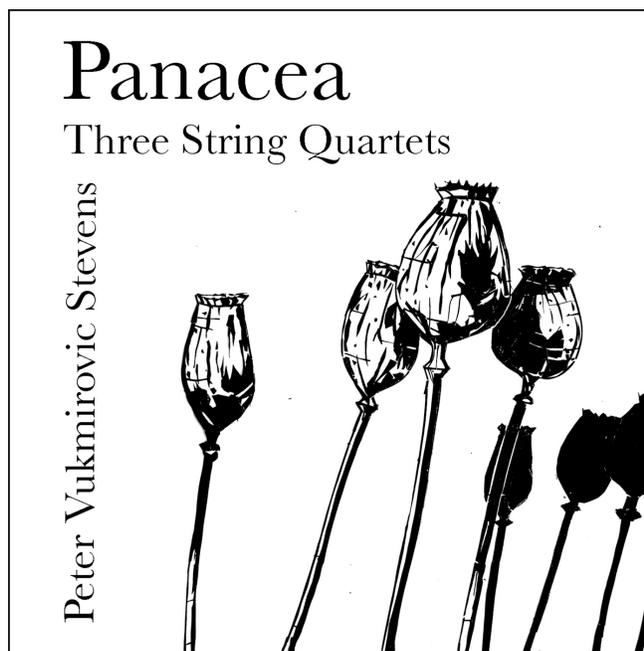


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 15, 2017

**PANACEA -**  
**Three String Quartets**  
By Peter Vukmirovic Stevens  
Panacea Quartet

Violin I      **Misha Shmidt**  
Violin II     **Blayne Barnes**  
Viola         **Mara Gearman**  
Cello         **Paige Stockley**



**- Music that speaks to us within a time of dissonance -**

ArpaViva is proud to announce the release of **PANACEA -Three String Quartets** by Paris based American composer, pianist and visual artist **Peter Vukmirovic Stevens**.

**Peter Vukmirovic Stevens'** new works for string quartet, with Quartet No.1 – **Panacea** - providing the title for the album, were premiered in Paris in 2016 and recorded in Seattle, Washington with support of the Jack Straw Foundation's Artist Support Award in 2017.

**PANACEA - Three String Quartets**, Three String Quartets, a new album by **Peter Vukmirovic Stevens** embodies the composer's deeply felt account of critical events of 2015-16, including the horrific terror attacks in Paris and the political upheavals in Europe and the U.S.

**Stevens'** new works for string quartet are emblematic in their powerful expression of emotions shared by the multitudes. Amidst all these events, music and art serve as a panacea - writes **Stevens** in his artist's statement - a ballast to the unstable ground beneath our feet.

While the dramatic interactions among the four instruments in his works portray strife and discord, **Peter Vukmirovic Stevens'** music also reinforces us with resolve and hope for progress in this world.

**Peter Vukmirovic Stevens'** new album **PANACEA - Three String Quartets**, comes on the heels of his two enthralling releases on Navona Records. **Feral Icons** for viola (2014), with **Mara Gearman**, and **August Ruins** for cello (2012), featuring **Paige Stockley**.

**Feral Icons** offers "*lush sound of expressive beauty*" ([Sonograma](#), Spain)

**August Ruins** is "*one of the finest pieces for unaccompanied cello to come along in a long time,*" ([The Classical Reviewer](#) UK) .

In his new album **PANACEA - Three String Quartets** **Peter Vukmirovic Stevens** reaffirms his passionate creative voice and compositional eloquence which enables him to connect with a broad spectrum of audiences. His music is heard widely in concert halls across the U.S., Europe, the Caucasus and Japan.

ArpaViva new release **PANACEA - Three String Quartets** by **Peter Vukmirovic Stevens** features an outstanding ensemble. Renowned violinists **Mikhail Shmidt** and **Blayné Barnes** join violist **Mara Gearman** and cellist **Paige Stockley** in this magnificent recording of **Stevens'** music.

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**Peter Vukmirovic Stevens** studied composition with **Bern Herbolzheimer** at Cornish College of the Arts where he graduated *magna cum laude*. After graduation, he went on for further orchestration studies with **Samuel Jones**, professor emeritus at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. He also studied composition and piano performance with **Bodhan Bubak** in Prague, and Indian vocal music and composition in Varanasi, India. He co-founded the Seattle Pianist Collective, an innovative concert ensemble, and served as the Artistic Director from 2006 to 2012. He has been awarded grants from the Allied Arts Foundation, and has twice received the Jack Straw Artist Support Award. **Stevens** has been awarded artist residencies at the Haytayan House in Armenia, Visby International Center for Composers in Sweden, and at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris.

**Peter Vukmirovic Stevens** also performs as a contemporary solo and chamber pianist in the U.S. and Europe. His artworks have shown in Seattle, Los Angeles and Paris, and have featured in Studio Visit Magazine.

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**PANACEA -Three String Quartets** AV CD009

**Peter Vukmirovic Stevens**

Recorded at Jack Straw Productions, Seattle - [jackstraw.org](http://jackstraw.org) , Recording Engineer - **Doug Haire** - [doughaire.com](http://doughaire.com) , Mastered at RFI, Seattle - [resonantmastering.com](http://resonantmastering.com) , Cover art - **Peter Vukmirovic Stevens** - [petervukmirovicstevens.com](http://petervukmirovicstevens.com)

Produced by **Peter Vukmirovic Stevens**

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For ADDITIONAL INFORMATION please visit [arpaviva.org](http://arpaviva.org)

Contact: **Victoria Jordanova** [jordanova@arpaviva.org](mailto:jordanova@arpaviva.org)

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