

Doug Lofstrom & The New

Quartet

Composer and bassist **Doug Lofstrom** has long dreamed of presenting the music he loved - without artificial boundaries. The embodiment of that dream is the **New Quartet**. Presenting the world's great music in a chamber music setting, the **New Quartet** features some of the Chicago area's best and most versatile musicians.

Formerly composer-in-residence for the Metropolis Symphony Orchestra and musical director of Chicago's Free Street Theater, **Lofstrom** has composed and arranged a wealth of stunning orchestral and chamber music. His works have been performed by the Atlanta, St. Louis and Milwaukee Symphony Orchestras, and the Present Music, Tales & Scales and Cube chamber ensembles. He is currently on the faculty of Chicago's Columbia College.

Violinist **James Sanders** is featured with his own Latin-jazz group, Conjunto, and is an active chamber and orchestral musician, regularly performing with the Ravinia Festival Orchestra and the Chicago Sinfonietta. Multi-reedist **Michael Levin** has performed with artists as diverse as Diane Schuur, Clark Terry, the Temptations and the Revolution Ensemble. Pianist **Leandro Lopez-Varady**, originally from Argentina, has become part of the Chicago jazz scene after touring the Far East with bassist Eldee Young. Rounding out the group is **Sarah Allen**, renowned jazz drummer and timpanist with the Northbrook Symphony.

Deliberately eclectic, the **New Quartet's** repertoire juxtaposes chamber music of **Bartok** and **Debussy** with early classics by **Duke Ellington**, tangos by **Astor Piazzolla** and **Lofstrom's** original cross-genre music. **New Quartet** concerts always contain a generous sampling of world music, featuring **Lofstrom's** arrangements of traditional pieces from Africa, Cuba, South America, the Middle East and Ireland.



"I have only one criterion for including music in the New Quartet repertoire: I have to love it – I gotta be obsessed with it!"

Doug Lofstrom, from a WBEZ radio interview -

"An aesthetic risk-taker, Lofstrom straddles too many categories to be easily classified."

Chicago Reader -

"Simply beautiful!"

The Intermezzo -

www.dougllofstrom.com