

enamored with the final outcome of his endeavor that he wrote to the publisher Härtel, saying: "I...regard them as my best work of the earlier days, and Mendelssohn often spoke to me in the same sense." Mendelssohn was the recipient of *Op. 41's* dedication. The *A Minor Quartet*, perhaps the most expressive of the three, opens with an introductory statement (*Andante espressivo*) in a polyphonic setting. Atypically, the introduction includes no thematic reference to the following Allegro, in which chromatic major sixth chords "provide a foretaste of Loge's motive in the Ring cycle" (James Lyon, editor, *The American Record Guide*). The second movement (*Scherzo: Presto*) is a spirited gallop, unrelenting in its forward drive except for the trio section, which gives a moment of reprieve before the return of the driving gallop. The third movement (*Adagio*) pays homage to Beethoven, with its melodic theme that mimics the third movement of his *Ninth Symphony*. The finale (*Presto*), in sonata-allegro form, "fairly cries out for a full orchestra, and in fact, its sound and fury are just barely contained in the quartet frame" (J. Lyons).

Program notes by Elmer Booze

The use of cameras or recording equipment during the performance is not allowed.

For the convenience of concertgoers the Garden Café remains open until 6:30 p.m.

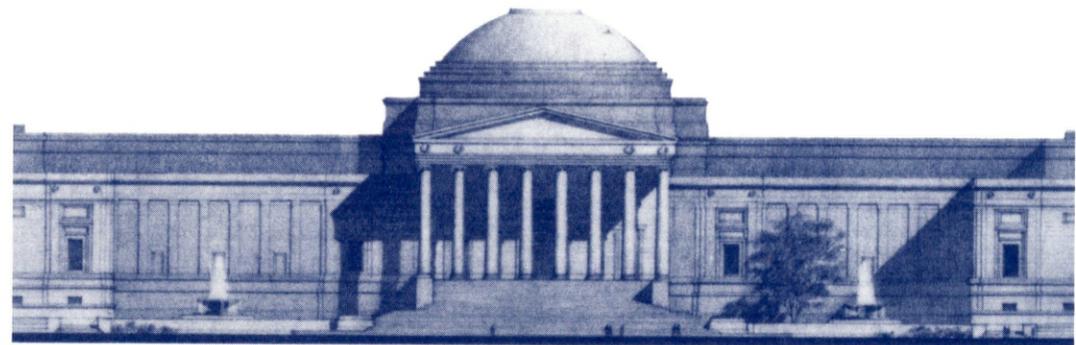
During the months of February and March, recent performances by the National Gallery Orchestra can be heard on Wednesdays at 9:00 p.m. on WETA-FM, 90.9.

Selections from concerts at the Gallery can be heard on the second Sunday of each month at 9:00 p.m. on WGMS-FM, 103.5.

The Fifty-eighth Season of

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL and
F. LAMMOT BELIN CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art



2338th Concert

TOKYO STRING QUARTET

MIKHAIL KOPELMAN, *violin* KIKUEI IKEDA, *violin*

KAZUHIDE ISOMURA, *viola* CLIVE GREENSMITH, *cello*

Sunday Evening, 27 February 2000
Seven O'clock
West Building, West Garden Court

Admission free

