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*Music in the Mansion*

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# DUBLIN GUITAR QUARTET

Brian Bolger  
Pat Brunnock  
Chien Buggle  
Tomas O'Durcain

*Sunday, February 15, 2026, 4pm & 7pm*



# PROGRAM

**Changing the Guard**

Nikita Koshkin (b. 1956)

**String Quartet No. 2 'Company'**

Philip Glass (b. 1937)

**Piano Etude No. 2**

Philip Glass (b. 1937)

**Book of Leaves**

1. *Every Morning*
2. *The Corner Room*
3. *Every Morning, Birds*

Rachel Grimes (b. 1970)  
(transcription by Brian Bolger)

**The Rite of Spring**

Igor Stravinsky (1882–1971)  
(transcription by Brian Bolger)

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## ABOUT THE DUBLIN GUITAR QUARTET

Described as a “quartet with a difference” by the *Irish Times*, Dublin Guitar Quartet (DGQ) is the first classical guitar quartet entirely devoted to new music. Since its formation at the Dublin Conservatory of Music and Drama, the DGQ has worked to expand the limited repertoire by commissioning new works and adapting contemporary works from outside of the guitar repertoire.

With the help of eight and 11-string guitars, the quartet has created an original catalogue of arrangements by composers such as Philip Glass, Steve Reich, Arvo Part, and Gyorgy Ligeti. The DGQ’s work has brought the attention of some of the world’s leading composers. This includes an album release on Philip Glass’s Orange Mountain Music label and a new 55-minute commission by Michael Gordon (NY). In April 2015, the quartet performed alongside the Grammy Award-winning LA Guitar Quartet, Conspirare, and Texas Guitar Quartet in a premiere of *How Little You Are* for three guitar quartets and choir by Nico Muhly in Austin, Texas. In 2019 DGQ performed their own reduction of this work in a U.S. tour in collaboration with vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth. The quartet have also premiered a commission by Chicago-based composer Marc Mellits in Syracuse, NY, in March 2016.

In 2010 the quartet were involved in a special performance of *Repentance* for cello, guitars and double bass by celebrated Russian composer Sofia Gubaidulina. The composer was present as they joined the Russian cellist Ivan Monighetti in a concert in St. Peter’s Church, Drogheda. The DGQ’s recording of this work was released on the LCMS label in March 2012. In 2008, the quartet was honored to share the stage with legendary American composer Philip Glass in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Dundalk. Their recording of these transcriptions reached No. 8 on the U.S. iTunes classical charts in 2014.

Other performance highlights include a four-city tour of Columbia and nine tours of North America. The DGQ have also performed at prestigious chamber music venues including Wigmore Hall in London and the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival. They have also performed in many of the leading venues in the U.S. including The Philips Collection Washington, Celebrity Series Boston, Subculture, Symphony Space, Yale University, and the Lincoln Centre in New York. In 2019 the quartet performed as one of the jury selected ensembles at Classical Next, Rotterdam. Winter of 2023 the group performed at Longwood Gardens, Dartmouth College, Hamilton College, and Penn State/Erie. On the group’s summer 2023 tour of North America they performed at Strings Music Festival in Steamboat Springs (CO), Clark Art Institute in Williamstown (MA), Rite of Summer festival on Governor’s Island (NY), and for a sold-out/standing room only crowd at Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua (NY). Dublin Guitar Quartet returns to the U.S. in October/November 2023 for performances at Syracuse Friends of Chamber Music, Wake Forest University, Bucknell University, Adelphi University, the Argyros Center in Ketchum (ID), and at San Francisco Performances.

The DGQ are developing the electric side of their guitar quartet repertoire with works like “Amplified,” a recent commission for electric guitar quartet by Michael Gordon. This was premiered at the David Lang/Bang on a Can curated festival of new music at the National Concert Hall, Dublin in February 2015. The U.S. premiere took place at four-night residency at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) in December 2016.

*The Dublin Guitar Quartet is supported by Culture Ireland.*