

## **Al Pari, string quartet (POL)**

The ensemble was founded in 2017 as the result of the activities of the Academy of Music in Katowice, Poland. The members are: violinists Marta Lucjanova and Alice Miruk-Mirska, violist Magdalena Maierova and cellist Elżbieta Rychwalska. All of them are artists of considerable experience in solo, chamber as well as orchestral performing. Their artistic growth was crowned by their studies under the tutelage of Szymon Krzeszowiec at the Academy of Karol Szymanowski in Katowice. They also had lessons and masterclasses with pedagogues such as Dariusz Smolarski (Poland), Roland Baldini (Austria/Germany), Frank Reineck (Germany), Anne-Christin Schwarz (Germany), Peter Schuhmayer (Austria). Last year the quartet took part in the 43th International Zenon Brzewski Masterclasses in Łańcut, Poland, they played in the chamber class of Andrzej Orkisz and in the workshops during the course of the Jaw Music Festival in Jaworznie, hosted by the violinist, Yuri Revich. The Al Pari Quartet was awarded a scholarship by the Hans and Eugenia Jütting Foundation and it was invited to participate in concerts organised by the town of Stendal in Germany. All four members of the Al Pari Quartet have taken part in masterclasses and have also been successful in international soloist competitions. They also cooperate with professional chamber orchestras: AUKSO, Archetti, Baltic Neopolis, as well as with NOSPR. They participated in orchestra projects for the youth: European Union Youth Orchestra, Britten-Pears Orchestra, Baltic Sea Philharmonic, Panufnik Project - Silesian Youth Orchestra, Orkester Norden, Youth Orchestra CEI. Their work in various chamber ensembles has earned them prizes in international competitions: 1st prize in Filadelfia (Italy, 2017 - Alice Miruk-Mirska, piano duo), 1st prize in the Musica Insieme competition in Venice (2016 - Marta Lucjanova and Magdalena Maierova, string trio), 1st prize in the 21st Century Art Festival in Trenčín (Slovakia, 2016 - Elżbieta Rychwalska in clarinet trio). Despite their relatively short careers the Al Pari Quartet has already played concerts in the dancing hall of the Łańcut Castle, the Teatr Sztuku in Jaworzno, Archdiocesan Museum in Katowice. They also have performed during the Mikstura Kultury Festival in Bydgoszcz. In 2018 the Al Pari Quartet had the opportunity to play concerts in Belfort (France) as part of the FIMU Festival. In June 2018 Al Pari performed with NOSPR in Katowice as part of the Środa Młodych cycle of concerts.