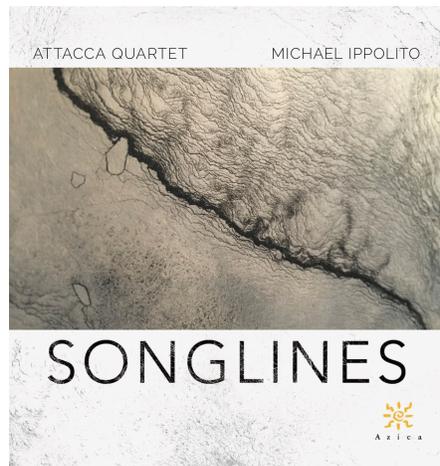


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Attacca Quartet to release *Songlines*, an album devoted to the music of Michael Ippolito on February 17, 2017



**“We’re living in a golden age of string quartets...It’s hard to disagree when you hear the vibrant young players in New York’s Attacca Quartet.”**

- NPR Music

For their latest release on Azica Records, available February 17, 2017, the **Attacca Quartet** have recorded the music of **Michael Ippolito**. The album, titled *Songlines*, includes music composed between 2009 and 2015 and showcases the wide range of Ippolito’s musical voice, and his influences from literature, visual art, and folk music. Anchored by the dark and intense **String Quartet No. 2** and the lyrical and compact **String Quartet No. 3 "Songlines,"** these larger pieces are complemented with shorter works: the bright and buoyant **Big Sky, Low Horizon**, the propulsively energetic **Trace**, the simple, folk-inspired **This Circle**, and the gently hypnotic **Smoke Rings**.

Their recent performance of **Smoke Rings** was featured on NPR’s Tiny Desk Concerts and the music from the album will be performed live on the Attacca Quartet’s **Recently Added Series** at National Sawdust on February 19 at 7PM.

Says Ippolito: “I find the string quartet to be an endlessly fascinating medium. It has such a rich repertoire and legacy, which can be both daunting and inspiring. There is so much incredible music to be in dialogue with. And yet, the quartet isn’t limited by that tradition. It is a chameleon ensemble that lends itself to being reimagined. Most importantly, it is an intimate and truly collaborative medium and working with the Attaccas to bring these pieces to life has been a privilege.”

This is the second album the Attacca Quartet has devoted to the music of a contemporary composer, following their critically-acclaimed recording the music of John Adams, **Fellow Traveller**.

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## TRACKLIST

### String Quartet No. 3 “Songlines”

Trace

Big Sky, Low Horizon

Smoke Rings

### String Quartet No. 2

I. Allegro energico

II. Lento

III. Allegro molto

This Circle, for string trio

## About the Attacca Quartet

First Prize winners of the 7th Osaka International Chamber Music Competition in 2011, top prizewinners and Listeners' Choice Award recipients in the 2011 Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition, and winners of the Alice Coleman Grand Prize at the 60th annual Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition in 2006, the internationally acclaimed Attacca Quartet has become one of America's premier young performing ensembles. The Attacca Quartet was formed at the Juilliard School in 2003, where they were also the Graduate Resident String Quartet from 2011 – 2013. For the 2014 – 2015 season, they were named the Quartet in Residence for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and in 2016 they were named Quartet in Residence at Texas State University School of Music.

They have released two albums to critical acclaim on Azica Records. Their debut “Fellow Traveller” featured the complete string quartet works of John Adams, and the second was their original version of Haydn’s “Seven Last Words of Christ of the Cross”. In 2016 they completed a cycle of the complete Haydn Quartets. The series, titled “the 68” was recorded live and was self-produced.

They have been honored with the 2013 National Federation of Music Clubs Centennial Chamber Music Award, the Arthur Foote Award from the Harvard Musical Association, and the Lotos Prize in the Arts. The Attacca Quartet is represented by Baker Artists, LLC.

## About Michael Ippolito

Praised by the New York Times for his “polished orchestration” that “glitters, from big-shoulders brass to eerily floating strings,” Michael Ippolito’s music has been performed by leading musicians in venues around the world. Drawing on a rich musical background of classical and folk music, and taking inspiration from visual art, literature and other art forms, Ippolito has forged a distinctive musical voice in a body of work spanning orchestral, chamber and vocal music.

His orchestral music has been conducted by Edo de Waart, Marin Alsop, David Alan Miller and Jeffrey Milarsky in performances by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, the Albany Symphony Orchestra and the Juilliard Orchestra. His chamber music has been performed by the Altius Quartet, Dinosaur Annex, and janus, among others. He has received commissions from numerous organizations, including Chamber Music America, the University of Georgia Wind Ensemble, ensemble 20/21 in Cologne, and the New York Choreographic Institute.

Ippolito is currently Assistant Professor of Composition at Texas State University. He studied with John Corigliano at The Juilliard School and with Joel Hoffman and Michael Fiday at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.