

## BUCHAREST GUITAR QUARTET

Bucharest Guitar Quartet means Mădălina Petre, Mădălin Antonesei, Alexandru Mihalcea and Bogdan Cioceanu, four musicians who met at the doctoral school of the Bucharest National Music University and who decided to create a common soundscape. The outcome of their initiative is this versatile quartet, which changes its shape with its repertoire and which suits both classical and contemporary music, jazz as well as samba or bossa nova. BGQ can play on philharmonic stages, in clubs or outdoor venues, and it is these musicians' goal to preserve the ensemble's ability to adapt, to be as good in any environment, to perform a strictly academic repertoire just as truthfully as a South-American one. Apart from these repertoire guidelines that focus on the history of music, Alexandru Mihalcea writes music specially for the quartet, and his works are inspired by the identity and abilities of BGQ.

The philosophy of the quartet also includes the idea of an artistic hub that allows for the emergence of other, duo or trio formulas among its members, in the true spirit of chamber music, which stands for collaboration and collegiality. The four regard such projects as constructive, in that they strengthen their relationship and ultimately contribute to the experience of BGQ as a whole.

Four identical instruments that are nonetheless able to sound extremely different, depending on the technique or the purpose for which the guitar is used, which leads to a spectacular orchestral quality; the ease with which the four musicians switch from an exclusively instrumental, classical repertoire to the bossa nova – with Mădălina as a vocalist, Bogdan on electric bass, Mădălin on Brazilian percussion and Alexandru in charge of guitar improvisation – these are just a few of the elements that make BGQ an ensemble that the public should keep an eye on.

