The Talich Quartet - Petr Messiereur (violine), Jan Kvapil (violine), Jan Talich (viola) and Evžen Rattay (violon-cello) - ranks among the most significant chamber bodies of the present in the Czechoslovakia.

The Talich Quartet originated in the year 1964 at the Prague Conservatory in the class of Professor Doctor Josef Micka. Still as a body within the Conservatory, the quartet toured Austria, where it attracted exceptional attention in Vienna and Salzburg. In 1970 the quartet became the Laureate of the European Music Festivals Association, which meant that apart from usual concert appearances at home and abroad it performed in numerous concerts at international festival fora.

During its career, the ensemble went on several tens of tours abroad on all significant stages in Europa and overseas.

Undisputable praise to the Talich Quartet's qualities is the fact that since 1975 it has been included in the circle of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra as a chamber ensemble. The quartet has been regularly appearing at the cycle of chamber music concerts organized by the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra. A significant part of the ensemble's activity are the concerts given at the International Prague Spring Festival.

The Talich players have made a number of successful TV, radio and gramophone recordings both at home and abroad. For instance the very first record, which was made in Paris, received the Grand Prix du Disque of the Charles Cros Academy. Shortly afterwards the ensemble about which the Paris daily Le Figaro wrote: "... technically perfect performance, instrumental unity without a flaw, and the exciting freshness of their play is sparkling like champaigne ...", was asked to record ten LPs with complete Beethoven's Quartets.

**PROGRAM** 

W. A. Mozart

B. Martinů

A. Dvořák

String Quartet in D Minor

String Trio

American Quartet in F Major, Op.96