Energetic performances, wide-ranging repertoires and shows with a twist. The Ragazze Quartet is much more than just a string quartet. With exquisitely beautiful music they challenge the set boundaries of classical music. Always on the lookout to collaborate with talented artists from different disciplines so that their music can be heard in so many different places.

The current cellist of the Ragazze Quartet will gradually move back to the UK, her home country, during the coming year. The Ragazze Quartet is therefore looking for a new cellist, on a full time basis. With around 100 concerts per year, the quartet tours both in the Netherlands and abroad. The quartet is looking for a cellist who has a great passion for string quartet. Someone with a creative mind, who is eager to experiment with new forms of performance practice. And most of all, someone who is excited about living the Ragazze-life: a full time commitment to the quartet.

How to apply
If you are interested in auditioning, please send the following to ragazze@ragazzekwartet.nl:
- Your CV
- A letter of motivation
- A video recording, if possible both playing solo as well as in an ensemble

Auditioning process
The auditioning process will take during various stages. The first selection of cellists will be invited to Amsterdam to work with the quartet for one or two days on a number of pieces from various styles. After that, another selection will be made for the second stage, which consists of working together for a longer period of time. This will involve both performing concerts, as working in a theatrical context. Finally, the quartet will invite one to three players for a trial period of several months.

CV Ragazze Quartet
The Ragazze Quartet is a young, Dutch string quartet, acclaimed for its musical enthusiasm, talent, versatility and dynamic presentation. Its versatility in particular is exceptional within the world of chamber music. The quartet collaborates with and performs alongside composers, musicians and artists working in a variety of disciplines and genres. While grounded firmly in the classical music tradition, the Ragazze Quartet is always in search of the ultimate cross-over, where the different disciplines are approached as equals, complementing and elevating one another.

The quartet graduated from the Dutch String Quartet Academy (NSKA) where the Ragazze attended masterclasses given by leading musicians from the international string quartet world, as well as receiving lessons from their regular teachers: Stefan Metz and Marc Danel.
The quartet continue lessons with their mentor Luc Marie Aguera, violinist of the Quatuor Ysaye (made possible by the Dutch Kersjes Foundation).

In October 2007 the Ragazze Quartet toured Nepal, where, besides giving concerts, they had the opportunity to meet and work with local musicians, introducing them to the concept of fusing together eastern and western musical ideas. This would inspire many of their future projects. On their return from Nepal, the Ragazze Quartet were selected for a concert series called ‘The Debut’, resulting in performances in all the major Dutch concert halls, including Het Concertgebouw.

2010 saw the quartet make their first trip to the USA when they were invited to take part in the Kronos Quartet workshop in New York City. Following on from this, the Ragazze performed several pieces from the Kronos repertoire in Carnegie Hall.

In 2012 the Ragazze Quartet signed a contract with the renowned Channel Classics label to record three CDs. Their first CD ‘Vivere’ has received high praise by the national and international press. Their second CD ‘Cesko’ was released April 2015.

Last year the Ragazze were part of the Academy at the prestigious Verbier Festival in Switzerland, receiving masterclasses from Gabor Takacs and Alfred Brendel, and performing a number of recitals. They also toured through China with Chinese pipa-player Lingling Yu to perform Tan Dun’s ‘Ghost Opera’, a fusion of a classical concert, Chinese ritual and theatre play. In November 2013, the Quartet was awarded the prestigious ‘Kersjes Prize’, a scholarship of €50.000 given every year to a Dutch chamber music ensemble.

In October 2014, the Ragazze toured in Indonesia, where they performed ‘Perhatian’, a piece written by Dutch composer Reza Namavar, together with the Indonesia gamelan ensemble Kyai Fatahillah.

The Ragazze Quartet continues to perform regularly at chamber music venues throughout The Netherlands (such as the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Vredenburg Utrecht and Philipszaal The Hague), abroad (Paris, Prague, Geneva, Ljubljana, New York and Rio de Janeiro) and can be heard regularly on radio and television.

www.ragazzequartet.com