

1798. Beethoven begins to compose Op 18, 6 string quartets, in August.
1799. Beethoven gives a first version copy of Op 18 No 1 to his close friend, Amenda. Amenda is later told not to circulate this version.
1800. Op 18 performed by Schuppanzigh Quartet at Prince Lichnowsky's.
1801. Op 18 published in Vienna. Nos 1-3 published in June and Nos 4-6 in October.
- 1805.** Beethoven begins to compose Op 59, 3 string quartets, known as the "Razumovsky" quartets.
- 1807** Op 59 performed by Schuppanzigh Quartet at a "public" concert with a select audience.
1808. Op 59 published in Vienna.
- 1809.** Op 74 "Harp" string quartet composed.
- 1810.** Op 74 published in Leipzig and London. Op 95 "Serioso" composed.
1814. Op 95 first performed in May.
- 1816** Op 95 published in Vienna. Schuppanzigh gives farewell concert before departing for Russia. This concert includes Op 59 No 3.
1823. Schuppanzigh resumes his quartet recitals.
25. Beethoven composes Op 127 and Op 132.
1825. Op 127 premiered by Schuppanzigh Quartet 6 March. Performance receives a poor review. Op 127 later played by Joseph Bohm Quartet, 20 March, and is well received. Beethoven composes Op 130, 131 and 133. Op 132 is premiered 9 September to an audience of 14 by Schuppanzigh Quartet and later publicly on 6 November.
- 1826** Op 130, with Op 133 as finale, is premiered by Schuppanzigh Quartet, 21 March. Op 127 is published in Mainz. Beethoven composes Op 135.
- 1827** Beethoven dies, 26 March. Op 130 and Op 133 are published in Vienna. Op 131 is published in Mainz. Op 135 is published in Berlin and Paris. Op 130 is performed with new finale, 22 April.
1828. Op 135 first performed 23 March.
- 1828-30** Karl Moser's String Quartet are documented as playing Beethoven quartets in Berlin, including Op 18 Nos 1 & 6, Op 59 Nos 2 & 3, Op 74, Op 95 and Op 132.
1832. Paris Conservatoire Orchestra's string section play a Beethoven quartet. Frederic Chopin is in the audience. For an example, see Leonard Bernstein's recording with the Vienna Philharmonic of Op 131.
1833. Muller Quartet documented as playing Op 59 Nos 2 and 3, with a favourable review.
- 1835** Pierre Chevillard founds *Society for the Last Quartets of Beethoven* in Paris.
- 1836** Ferdinand David's quartet begin to include Beethoven quartets in Leipzig Gewandhaus concerts.
- 1837** F. Kummer presents a symphony concert that features his orchestral arrangement of Op 74.
- 1846** Op 131 first performed in Leipzig by Leonard Quartet from Paris. *Beethoven Quartet Society* is set up in London, with the aim to study late Beethoven string quartets.
1849. First string quartet group with permanent players is formed by Joseph Hellmesberger.
- c1850** In Russia, Prince Kastriot employs a young quartet, led by Ivanov, to play entire Beethoven quartet cycle.
- 1852** In America, Boston, John Sullivan Dwight founds a chamber quintet. Included in concert programs are the Beethoven string quartets.
- 1855-56** *Society for the Last Quartets of Beethoven* tour France and Germany. Hector Berlioz is in the audience. The Maurin and Armingaud Quartets revive the late Beethoven quartets in Paris.
- 1859** Late Beethoven quartets are still being performed in Vienna. The Laub Redecke Quartet play Beethoven quartets in Berlin, while in Philadelphia, America, there are records of concerts held by the Beethoven Quartet.
1902. Flonzaley Quartet are established in America.
- 1913** The Busch Quartet is founded by Adolf Busch.
- 1926** The earliest recordings still available today, are undertaken of selected quartets, by the Lener Quartet.
- 1927** The centenary of Beethoven's death. The Moscow Conservatory Quartet play the cycle in memory of this occasion.
- 1930's** The Busch Quartet record all the Beethoven string quartets except Op 130.
- 1941** The Busch Quartet make a second Beethoven cycle recording for CBS and include Op 130.
- 1955** The Slee tradition begins, at the University of Boston, where once a year, to current date, the complete Beethoven cycle is performed. Ensembles featured have included the Budapest, Guarneri, Julliard, Tokyo, and Emerson Quartets.
1957. The Budapest String Quartet record the Beethoven cycle.
1962. The Tel Aviv Quartet and Hungarian Quartet play the Beethoven cycle in Sydney, Australia.
1963. The string quartets are presented in Sydney by Musica Viva, featuring the Smetana Quartet on their second Australian tour.
- 1967** The Sydney String Quartet play entire cycle of Beethoven quartets.
- 1976** The entire Beethoven string quartets are played again in Sydney, the first time since 1967.
- 1980** A four-hand piano edition of Beethoven's string quartets, complete, is published by Dover.
- 1987** The Sydney String Quartet once again play the entire Beethoven quartet cycle. The Pro Arte Quartet make a recording of the Amenda version of Op 18 No 1.
- 1991** The Chilingirian Quartet replace the Takacs Quartet and play the entire Beethoven cycle in Sydney.
- 1998** The entire cycle of Beethoven string quartets are performed at the Sydney Festival by the Lindsay String Quartet.

**2000** The Lafayette String Quartet plays the entire cycle in Canada, using Op 18 No 1 Amenda version and the Grosse Fuge Finale of Op 130. The Eroica Quartet record the entire Beethoven string quartets.

**2001** The Takacs Quartet perform the complete cycle of Beethoven's string quartets in Sydney, Australia.