



## Chris Rogerson, *composer*

### THE BUFFALO NEWS

#### Young string quartet opens season well

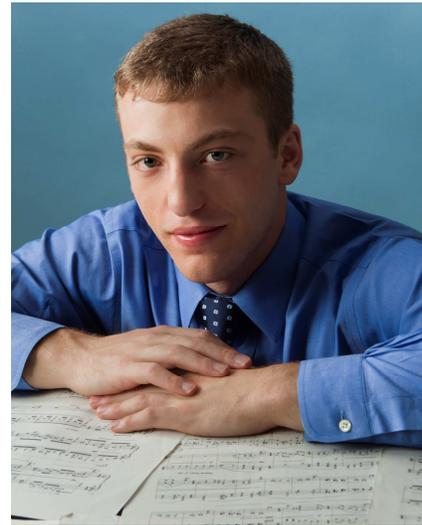
*Garaud MacTaggart | The Buffalo News | October 9, 2013*

The 90th season of the Buffalo Chamber Music Society opened Tuesday night with a young string quartet, a young composer and a couple of works by older composers that were receiving their first performance in the BCMS concert series.

Amy Schroeder, first violinist of the Attacca Quartet, has roots in Western New York, as does Chris Rogerson, whose String Quartet No. 2 was commissioned by the BCMS and received its world premiere by the Attacca Quartet. By meshing those facts and those folks into one concert, the evening became draped with all the emotional trappings of a homecoming, as Schroeder and Rogerson paid tribute to their mentors and the early musical experiences in the area that helped shape them into the artists they've become. It was a love fest, and the music heard was worthy of it all.

In many ways, Rogerson's work was the centerpiece of the night. After the composer came onto the stage and said a few words, the piece began the second half of the concert. There were a lot of ideas packed into the score. On one hand you could talk about its density, how tightly woven the first movement was and dwell on the piquant rhythms, acerbic textures, and oddly danceable momentum driven by those factors, but the bottom line goes directly to how consistently interesting it was. For fans of late 20th century music it was not a difficult piece to listen to; in fact, there was much that was beguiling. It would be interesting to hear it a second time.

Standing ovations followed the first half, the Rogerson quartet and the ending of Mendelssohn's piece – as much for the music as for the performance.



*Chris Rogerson (Photo: Christian Steiner)*