



Infinitus FAQ

1. What is the official name of the group?

The official name is simply “Infinitus” (pronounced “in-FIN-uh-tus”). **Note to the press:** *If you would like a more descriptive name, please use one of the following – “Infinitus (String Trio)” or “Infinitus – String Trio”.*

2. How long has the group been together?

Although initially a string quartet, the group became a trio in 2008. John, Anthony and Alex have been playing together since 2006.

3. How was the group formed?

Infinitus was originally formed by Alex and Anthony Cheung as a student group in 2002, while they were students at the University of British Columbia. After leaving UBC the group took on many forms, leading to the addition of John Littlejohn in 2006. The group toured (with a few great violinists) as a quartet for 2 years before metamorphosing into a string trio.

4. Where does the name “Infinitus” come from?

When deciding on the name of the group, Anthony sat down with a Latin dictionary. After a 3-hour search, he settled on the name “Infinitus” – the Latin root for the word “Infinity”. This name now personifies the group, as they strive to remove all musical and technical barriers often associated with stringed instruments.

5. Why/How did you begin incorporating vocal percussion (beatboxing) into your music?

We were playing a “hip-hop medley” on a tour in northern British Columbia in 2006, and we all felt that the piece was missing something: a beat. We then began experimenting with beatboxing while playing and it stuck.

6. Are Alex and Anthony related?

Yes. They are twins. Alex is older by 5 minutes.

7. How did you meet?

Alex, Anthony, & John were classmates at the University of Michigan School of Music. They quickly became best friends and were roommates. They went their separate ways for graduate school (John – Peabody Institute, Alex & Anthony – University of British Columbia) and reunited in 2005 at John’s wedding.

8. At what age did you begin playing music?

Alex & Anthony both started on piano at the age of 5. Alex started learning to play the cello when he was 9 years old. Anthony picked up the violin when he was 9 years old, and switched to viola when he was 13. Although he still plays both instruments, he plays the viola in Infinitus. John started playing the violin when he was 10 years old.



9. Where do you get your arrangements?

With the exception of most of our classical repertoire, we arrange all of our music. All three members arrange for the group.

10. Do you write your own music?

Yes. All three members compose music for the group.

11. Where are you all from originally?

John was born and raised in Michigan, USA. He currently lives in the greater Vancouver area and is a permanent resident of Canada. Alex & Anthony were born in Montreal, Canada and grew up in Ohio, USA. There are both dual citizens of the USA and Canada.

12. Where did you do your training?

All three members received undergraduate performance degrees, on their respective instruments, from the University of Michigan. Alex and Anthony did some graduate work at the University of British Columbia. John completed a master's degree and graduate performance diploma (GPD) at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University.

13. Where do you play?

Short answer...almost anywhere. We play in concert halls, schools, hospices, nursing homes, native reserves, and occasionally outdoors.

14. Is this your full time job?

Yes. This is our main gig, although we all freelance, sub with the Vancouver Symphony, and teach.

15. Do you have any cds for sale?

Yes! Our self-titled debut album is now available on iTunes, CDbaby, and wherever cd's are sold.