The Aperto Piano Quartet was founded in 2000 by pianist Frank-Immo Zichner. His passion for chamber music, alongside his solo career, repeatedly brought him together with renowned chamber musicians and strengthened his desire to found his own ensemble. Over the years of its existence, the Aperto Piano Quartet has matured into an ensemble characterized by "cultivated sonority and sensitive interplay" (Joachim Wormsbächer, FAZ).

The Aperto Piano Quartet's repertoire today includes not only the great piano quartets of the Classical and Romantic periods. Works by forgotten composers, such as the chamber music of Hans Gál and Konstanty Regamey, have also been performed and recorded by the Aperto Piano Quartet. The ensemble has repeatedly advocated for expanding the piano quartet repertoire. Piano quartets dedicated to the Aperto Quartet have been composed by Elena Mendoza, Krzysztof Meyer, and Christian Jost, among others.

Numerous CDs document the ensemble's musical output. Several of them have been nominated for the German Record Critics' Award. The Aperto Piano Quartet has performed in various European countries and at international festivals, including the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival.

Since 2025, the Aperto Piano Quartet has consisted of Frank Reinecke (violin), Stefan Fehlandt (viola), Stephan Forck (cello), and Frank-Immo Zichner (piano).

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