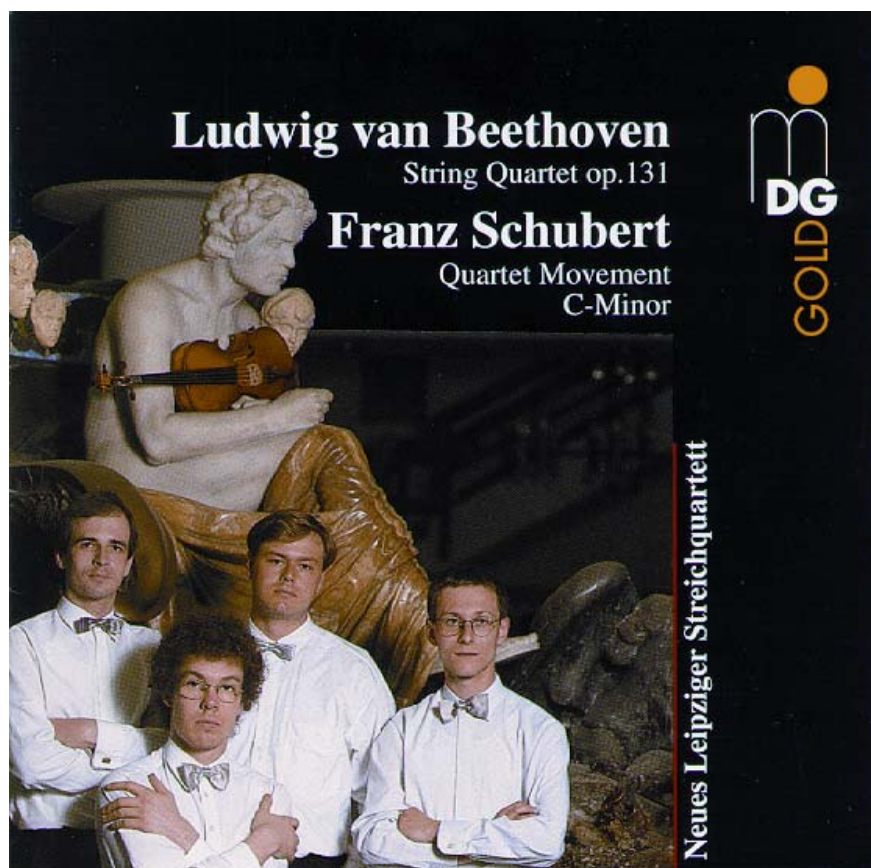


NEW • NOUVEAUTE • NEUHEIT

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GOLD



Title:
Beethoven:
Streichquartett op. 131
Schubert: Quartettsatz c-Moll

Musicians:
(Neues)
Leipziger Streichquartett

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:
MDG 307 0550-2

UPC-Code:
760623055022

Beethoven's Late Oeuvre Revisited

Beethoven's ominous String Quartet op. 131 was practically unknown in Vienna during his lifetime. Today his late string quartets, once regarded as eccentric unwieldy, are known and performed throughout the world. This does not mean, however, that there is no room for new interpretations: The New Leipzig String Quartet's sensuous, tone-oriented interpretation displays the unique features of opus 131 in a new light and renders Beethoven's late oeuvre more accessible than it has ever been before.

Unfinished Life, Unfinished work

Schubert's String Quartet Movement in C minor dates to about the same time as Beethoven's op. 131 and represents the unfinished breakthrough of a young compositional genius who died at the age of thirty-one.

An Exemption of the Rule

For many years now an unwritten interpretive rule has been in effect in the chamber music world: the late Beethoven and the young Schubert, in all their great profundity of musical thought, are reserved for seasoned instrumentalists only. The present CD demonstrates that there are and should be exceptions to this rule. The fleetingness of youthful vigor is the

basic idea behind the two works recorded here, and only young musicians truly succeed in conveying it.

A Chamber Music Landmark

The New Leipzig String Quartet has already become a landmark in the crowded European Chamber Music world. The ensemble was formed in 1986 and has gone to develop a busy concert schedule in Europe, America, Africa and Asia. In 1991 it was awarded a prestigious ARD competition prize in Munich. Pilgrimages are being made to Leipzig these days, for opportunities to hear good chamber music!

Further Releases

"Mendelssohn's mastery is documented in his quartets — that he has in common with the members of the Leipzig String Quartet," is how *FonoForum* formulated it, and other music experts have followed suit: "First choice (*BBC Music Magazine*); "Everything is lavish, calm, ...and music" (*Diapason*); "Benchmark" (*BBC*); "The best currently to be had and to be experienced" (*Crescendo*).

Felix Mendelssohn: Complete String Quartets
Vol. 1: op. 12 + 13 MDG 307 1055-2
Vol. 2: op. 44, 1 + 2 MDG 307 1168-2
Vol. 3: op. 44, 3 + 80 MDG 307 1056-2
Vol. 4: op. 20 MDG 307 1057-2