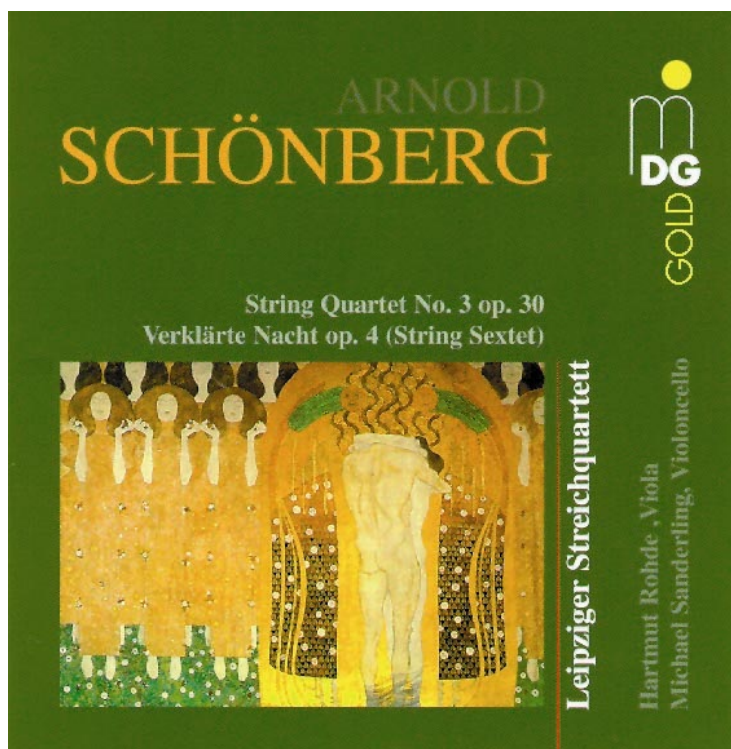


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Title:

Arnold Schönberg
Verklärte Nacht op. 4
String Quartet No. III op. 30

Musicians:

Leipziger Streichquartett
Hartmut Rohde, viola
Michael Sanderling, violoncello

Date of Release: 1/98

Number CDs: 1

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MDG 307 0773-2

UPC-Code:



Classic Match

Two classics, one from the nineteenth century and the other from the turn of the century, in interpretations by the Leipzig String Quartet: Schönberg's late-romantic string sextet *Verklärte Nacht* and his early twelve-tone String Quartet No. 3. The great composer meets his match in these master chamber musicians, who have skyrocketed to fame in record time.

Sextet Poetics

Richard Dehmel's poem *Verklärte Nacht* must have had a spellbinding effect on the twenty-two-year-old Schönberg. He set it a number of times and modeled his famous sextet on its five-part formal structure. He also captured the charged, fascinating atmosphere of the text in his music combining beautiful melodiousness and late-romantic big sound.

Revolutionary Filling

Schönberg proceeds along classical paths in his twelve-tone String Quartet No. 3. As Mozart before him, he employs the time-honored sonata form in the first movement, song form in the second movement, classical minuet in the third movement, and rondo in the last movement. The form is traditional, but the revolution represented by the dodecaphonic expressive idiom is well underway in the filling.

The Best and More

The four musicians of the Leipzig String Quartet have demonstrated beyond all doubt their first-class standing in the chamber-music world. The MDG recordings by Andreas Seidel, Tilman Büning, Ivo Bauer, and Matthias Moosdorf with compositions of the Second Viennese School and the now complete, spectacular new Schubert cycle have earned them the title of the "most sophisticated and imaginative ensemble at the moment" (BBC). On this CD they are joined by Hartmut Rohde (professor of viola at the Berlin College of the Arts) and the cellist Michael Sanderlin (professor at the Hanns Eisler Music Academy in Berlin).

A Breath of Fresh Air

A. Schönberg

String Quartet No. I op. 7 MDG L 3462

A. Webern

Complete String Quartets, Piano Quintet
MDG 307 0589-2

"An extraordinary rendering of Anton Webern's complete String Quartet and the Piano Quintet of 1907 ... The four instrumentalists are like a breath of fresh air on the chamber music scene." (Info-Press)