

10/01-(5)

Title:

Kurt Weill (1900-1950)
String Quartets B minor
and op. 8
P. Hindemith (1895-1963):
Minimax

Musicians:

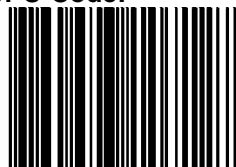
Leipziger Streichquartett

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:

MDG 307 1071-2

UPC-Code:



7 60623 10712 7



Roaring Twenties

The Leipzig String Quartet not only travels the well-trodden paths of the repertoire but also celebrated an overwhelming success with the quartets of the Second Viennese School. On this recording they continue along this path with rare compositional treats from the Roaring Twenties together with a recording premiere. The two quartets of Kurt Weill are flanked by the "Repertory for Military Music" or Minimax (as it is more familiarly known, together with a special bonus of two funny little mud larks) by Paul Hindemith.

Stage Calling

Few stage works of the time could match the popularity of Weill's *The Threepenny Opera*. The chamber oeuvre of the Dessau composer, however, continues to remain by and large unknown. Weill composed his works of chamber instrumentation before he recognized his calling for the stage.

Two for Four

It was clearly owing to the influence of his teacher Engelbert Humperdinck that Weill composed the String Quartet in B minor, the autograph of which he later carelessly gave away. It did not resurface until 1975 and was recorded only twenty-five years later. The String Quartet op. 8 got off to a much better start than its predecessor, with a fellow by the name of Paul Hindemith playing the viola part at its premiere.

Beery Mood

While Weill did not object to the publication of the works of his youth, Hindemith saw to it that nothing that he considered half-brewed was ever offered for public consumption. Minimax was composed in a beery mood. The beginning of the cello part in the "Hohenfürstenberg March" bears the note "The fourth valve of the imperial bass is frozen over." "Alte Kameraden" (comrades) become "Alte Karbonaden" (cutlets) and "The Two Little Finches" from the popular concert polka of the same name mutate into mud larks.

Top Ratings

F. Schubert: Complete String Quartets
Vol. 1-9 MDG 307 0600-2



Ludwig van Beethoven: String Quartets
op. 59,3 and 74 MDG 307 0852-2
op. 131 and 135 MDG 307 0820-2
op. 18,1 and 18,4 MDG 307 0853-2
op. 59,1 and 14,1 MDG 307 0707-2



W. A. Mozart:

String Quartets KV 575, 589 & 590
MDG 307 0936-2 (2 CDs for 1)

Andreas Romberg: String Quartets

op. 1, 1-3 MDG 307 0963-2
op. 2, 2; 16,2; 30,1 MDG 307 1026-2

