



04/02-(6)

**Title:**

W. A. Mozart  
Streichquartette  
KV 458 & 465

**Musicians:**

Leipziger Streichquartett

**Number of CDs: 1**

**Order Number:**

MDG 307 1107-2

**UPC-Code:**



**Time Machine**

What Mozart fan does not wish that he or she could have witnessed the premiere at Vienna's Große Schulerstr. No. 846 on January 15, 1785? It was at this address and on this date that the later so very successful "Hunt Quartet" and "Dissonance Quartet" were performed for the first time. The performance on this CD by the Leipzig String Quartet, whose members rank with the world's top Mozart interpreters, is the next best thing to having been there.

**Sworn Statement**

The Quartets KV 458 and 465 also go by the name of the "Haydn Quartets," and it was the twenty-seven-year-old Mozart himself who dedicated them to his admired mentor Joseph Haydn and had them performed for him. Haydn communicated his amazement to Leopold Mozart in a short note: "I say to you before God, as an honest man, that your son is the greatest composer that I know in person and by name: he has taste, and, beyond that, the greatest compositional knowledge."

**Spicy Fare**

Haydn may have been enthusiastic, but self-appointed Viennese experts reacted with skepticism. One critic wrote in Cramer's *Magazin der Musik*, "The quartets which he has dedicated to Haydn are indeed too heavily spiced — and what palate can endure that

for long?" Even then, so it seems, musical fast food was in ample supply.

**Lucky Stars**

When the Leipzig String Quartet was founded in 1988, three of its members were first-chair musicians in the Gewandhaus Orchestra. Today — thank heavens — they do all of their performing on the concert stage as one of the world's most outstanding chamber ensembles. The ARD Competition in Munich, Siemens Music Prize, and Busch Brothers Prize as well as concert tours through forty-five countries around the globe and countless recording prizes have shown that the musicians of the LSQ, who now record exclusively on MDG, took the right step when they resigned from their orchestral posts.

**W. A. Mozart:** String Quartets KV 387 and 421  
MDG 307 1035-2

**W. A. Mozart:** String Quartets KV 575, 589 & 590  
MDG 307 0936-2 (2 CDs for 1)

**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

