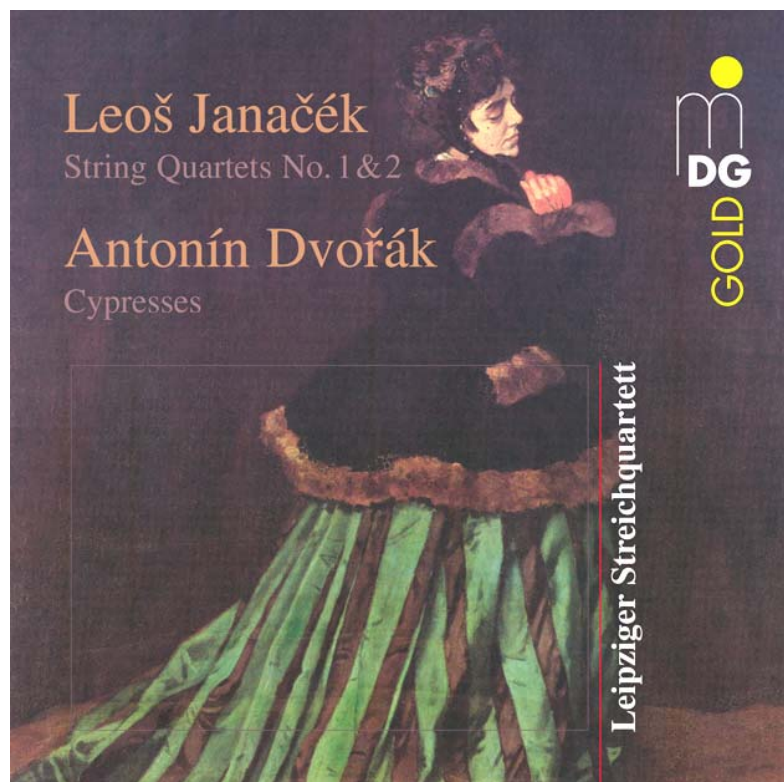


NEW • NOUVEAUTE • NEUHEIT

**MDG**  
GOLD



11/08-(5)

**Title:**

**Leoš Janáček** (1854-1928)  
String Quartets No. 1+2  
**Antonín Dvořák** (1841-1904)  
Cypresses

**Musicians:**

Leipziger Streichquartett

1 CD

**Order No.:**

MDG 307 1472-2

**UPC Code:**



**Universal Love**

What a splendid program! All three compositions concern the multifaceted and never-ending theme of love, and the Czech composer Leos Janáček and his fellow countryman Antonín Dvořák illustrate all its many sides. Their string quartets tell of joy and grief, of boundless attraction and profound disappointment and offer the Leipzig String Quartet everything it needs for an intensive, passionate, and sensitive interpretation.

**Muse's Monument**

Janáček first began occupying himself with the royal discipline of chamber music only five years before his death. Leo Tolstoy's *Kreutzer Sonata* novella, a tragic story of marriage in which Beethoven's famous work of the same name plays an important role, had been his source of inspiration. In his second quartet he expressed himself even more personally about his radiant love for his young Muse Kamila, setting this monument to her just prior to his death in August 1928.

**Vintage Cycle**

Antonín Dvořák told his publisher, "Think of the young man in love." But an even more dramatic fate was behind it all – namely, his own love. The verses once penned by a Moravian poet lay slumbering in the famous Bohemian composer's suitcase for more than twenty years. Then in the spring of 1887 Dvořák took out his old *Cypresses* song cycle and transformed it into twelve string quartet movements on the love and

grief of the young Dvořák, who later had to live with the fact that "his Josephina" was his sister-in-law.

**Performance Passion**

The almost seventy CDs recorded by the Leipzig String Quartet, including complete recordings of the works of Mendelssohn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Berg, Schönberg, and Webern, have been awarded countless distinctions for their "mature and finely elaborated ensemble culture" (Stereo). "It is always well worth going on discovery tour with the LSQ, for these four musicians repeatedly venture out onto new territory" (Pizzicato).

**String Quartets by Opera Composers**

Works by Wagner, Puccini, Respighi, Verdi, Humperdinck  
MDG 307 1495-2

**Maurice Ravel:** Quartet

**Germaine Tailleferre:** Quartet (1919)

**Darius Milhaud:** String Quartet No. 4  
MDG 307 1359-2

**Caplet:** Conte fantastique

**Debussy:** String Quartet

**Fauré:** String Quartet  
with Marie-Pierre Langlamet, harp  
MDG 307 1430-2

