



Joachim Raff
(1822 - 1882)

Chamber Music Vol. 3

**Leipziger Streichquartett
"Plus"**

Stefan Arzberger, violin
Tilman Büning, violin
Ivo Bauer, viola
Peter Bruns, violoncello

String Octet:

Leipziger Streichquartett
Elisabeth Dingstad, violin 3
Frank Reinecke, violin 4
Dorothea Hemken, viola 2
Peter Hörr, violoncello 2

Piano Quintet:

Rudolph Meister, piano
Leipziger Streichquartett

Trovatore + Rigoletto:

Stefan Arzberger, violin
Rudolph Meister, piano

MDG 307 2273



Double play

Tradition and progress - this is how Joachim Raff himself characterized his compositions, with which he was caught between all stools in his time. On the occasion of the 200th birthday of the composer, who is today unjustly almost completely forgotten, the Leipzig String Quartet presents his string octet, which follows this principle in an exemplary manner. With the Fantasy op. 207b for piano quintet and two surprisingly original encores, the growing Raff fan community can look forward to a special birthday present, world premieres included.

Indulgence

On the face of it, the octet is based on the classical four-movement form. It goes without saying that this would have offended the "New German Composers". Harmonically, however, Raff is completely with the modernizers around Wagner and Liszt - already the beginning of the first movement shows bold turns, and the extended slow movement can't get out of the rapturous indulgence...

Hotspur

For the Fantasy, of which there was originally a version for two pianos, the Leipzigers can be assured of Rudolph Meister's participation. The accomplished pianist shines already at the virtuoso beginning, whose rushing cascades accompany the palatable string singing. In the Larghetto section, the quartet and piano then find an extremely harmonious cooperation, and in a finely crafted play with the expectations of the audience, the quintet storms to a furious conclusion.

Cuckoo's egg

The two encores are a real rarity: Under the name of Joseph Küffner, an immensely popular arranger at the time, though already deceased, Schott-Verlag for a short time published arrangements of popular operas from Raff's pen. Primarily Stefan Arzberger and Rudolph Meister can clearly hear the pleasure in Verdi's evergreens "Il Trovatore" and "Rigoletto" - bel canto melting at its best!

Also available:

Joachim Raff (1822 - 1882)

Chamber Music Volume 2
String Quartets
Nr. 5 op. 138
Nr. 7 op. 192,2
„Schöne Müllerin“
MDG 307 2255-2



Joachim Raff

Chamber Music Vol. 1
Quartett Nr. 1 op. 77
Quartett Nr. 2 op. 90
MDG 307 2187-2

Joseph Haydn (1732 - 1809)
all string quartets until today:

Vol. 14: op. 9 1, 2 & 3	MDG 307 2234-2
Vol. 13: op. 74 1, 2 & 3	MDG 307 2224-2
Vol. 12: op. 17 2, 4 & 6	MDG 307 2142-2
Vol. 11: op. 17 1, 3 & 5	MDG 307 2141-2
Vol. 10: op. 64 1, 2 & 6	MDG 307 2093-2
Vol. 9: op. 20 1, 3 & 5	MDG 308 1925-2
Vol. 8: op. 50 2, 3 & 6	MDG 307 1898-2
Vol. 7: op. 42, op. 103, op. 77 No. 1 & 2	MDG 307 1860-2
Vol. 6: op. 33 1, 3 & 5	MDG 307 1812-2
Vol. 5: op. 64 3, 4 & 5	MDG 307 1723-2

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