



Title:
Anton Webern
Complete Works
for String Quartet
Piano Quintet (1907)

Musicians:
(Neues) Leipziger Streichquartett

Release Date:
2/95

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:
MDG 307 0589-2

UPC-Code:
760623058924

Complete!

Our complete recording of compositions of the Second Viennese School with the New Leipzig String Quartet continues with an extraordinary rendering of Anton Webern's complete String Quartets and the Piano Quintet of 1907. Here we have the artistic credo of a great composer expressed in chamber miniatures.

Touchstone

Webern's musical thought was centered around the musical essence of the single tone. For this master of the compositional aphorism the string quartet and its fourfold instrumental structure were what the madrigal had been for Renaissance composers: the touchstone of genuine talent.

Absolutely Unheard-of

Webern's music was hardly known at all during his lifetime, and it was only after World War II that the avant-garde learned to appreciate his genius. The New Music in his music was truly new: unheard-of brevity, fragmentation of the harmonic whole, and heavy-duty expression with a yet so very fragile swing.

In Short

„Here we should recall just how much forbearance was involved in keeping things so short. Every glance has a poem in it, every sigh a novel. But: to convey a novel in a single gesture, happiness in a single sigh of relief...!“ Thus Arnold Schönberg of Webern's highly expressive Bagatelles op. 9 during the 1920s.

A Leipzig Exclusive

The four instrumentalists of the New Leipzig String Quartet are like a breath of fresh air on the German chamber music scene. They have focused their efforts on quartet playing for a year now, with performances in all the major German concert halls and extended tours through Japan and Australia. And they have undertaken a complete recording of the works of the Second Viennese School exclusively for MDG!

Romantic...

A complete recording of Schubert's complete string chamber oeuvre is also planned.

...and Classical

The New Leipzig String Quartet's recent release of Beethoven's String Quartet op.131 (MDG 307 0550-2) is „an equally ideal and successful recording,... and the result even invites comparison to the great recordings of interpretation history“ (FonoForum).