



**Title:**  
 Franz Schubert  
 Complete String Quartets Vol. 4:  
 Quartet D minor D 810  
 „Death and the Maiden“  
 Menuets and Deutsche D 89  
 Menuet D minor D 86

**Musicians:**  
 Leipziger Streichquartett  
 Christian Ockert, Double Bass

**Date of Release:** 6/96

**Number of CDs:** 1

**Order Number:**  
 MDG 307 0604-2

**UPC-Code:**  
 760623060422

### Great Expectations

Vol. 4 of our complete edition of Schubert's string quartets features the central String Quartet in D minor (D 810), better known as "Der Tod und das Mädchen." And the Leipzig String Quartet lives up to the great expectations that fans of fine string music have rightly to come to have of this top ensemble and this unique recording venture.

### Declaration of Independence

The D minor quartet was Schubert's declaration of independence from Beethoven, his great model. His contemporaries regarded this unwieldy work dating to some three years before his death as too hard to handle. Even the great first violinist of the Schuppanzigh Quartet could not make heads or tails of it.

### Death's Flirtation

The variation movement combines homey feelings and threatening premonitions in its representation of paradise and recalls Schubert's masterful tonal and vocal rendering of the theme of death's flirtation in his setting of the Claudius poem, a song also known as "Der Tod und das Mädchen."

### Emotional Gamut

The bouncy Minuets and German Dances (D 89) are musical treasures from what seems to have been a happier period in Schubert's life. It is thus that this CD offers us a glimpse at the whole emotional gamut of this great romantic composer.

### Up the Ladder of Success

After its prizewinning performance at the ARD Competition in Munich in 1991, the Leipzig String Quartet has taken one giant step after another up the ladder of success. The reviews of the recently released Vols. 1-3 of this same series speak for themselves: "The same rank as the Juilliard recording, even comparable to the legendary recording by the Busch Quartet" (Classic CD).

### Take your pick

For those of you who would like to hear more from Leipzig's quartet superstars:  
 Schubert, Complete String Quartets  
 Vol. 1: Quartet in G major D 887 etc. MDG 307 0601-2  
 Vol. 2: Quartet in A minor D 804 etc. MDG 307 0602-2  
 Vol. 3: Quintet in C major D 956 etc. MDG 307 0603-2  
 Beethoven, String Quartet op. 131  
 Schubert, Quartet Movement in G minor

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