

**Title:**

Franz Schubert
Complete String Quartets Vol. 5
Quartets D 87, 74 and 103

Musicians:

Leipziger Streichquartett

Date of Release: 9/96

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:

MDG 307 0605-2

UPC-Code:

760623060521

Halftime Reviews

At halftime the Leipzig String Quartet's complete recording of Schubert's quartets promises to be „the most complete such recording ever released“ and has won „virtually unanimous praise from music critics inside and outside Germany“ (FonoForum)

Double Homage

The Quartet D 74 was a double act of homage: Schubert dedicated it to his father and paid tribute to Mozart's captivating opera music, while seeming to develop his own independent tone in the course of its movement. The great breadth of this extraordinary work by the sixteen-year-old genius points ahead to his Symphony No. 1.

Poor Math Grades

The Quartet in E flat major D 87 used to be a complete chronological riddle. Was it a work of Schubert's youth? Was this the late quartet he announced in 1824? Today we know that it belongs together with the Quartet D 74: Schubert composed it in 1813, just after he had been thrown out of the city college for his poor math grades.

Storm and Stress

Only the first movement of String Quartet D 103 has come down to us, and even it is in fragmentary form. It was in April 1814 that Schubert wrote „Quartetto“ over the first measures of what is a classic Storm and Stress composition bursting with affective crescendos and wild agitados. The manuscript breaks off at the end of the last sheet of paper. Schubert's handwriting becomes sloppy, and he is only halfhearted about correcting his increasing slips of the pen. Had he composed himself into a cul-de-sac?

„Uncompromisingly Quality“ (Stereoplay)

Franz Schubert, Complete String Quartets Vol. 1-4
MDG 307 0601-2 to 307 0604-2

Blacher/Lutoslawski
String Quartets, MDG L 3507

Anton Webern
Complete String Quartets and Piano Quintet
MDG 307 0589-2

Arnold Schönberg,
String Quartet Nr. 1 op. 7, MDG L 3462

Ludwig van Beethoven,
String Quartet C sharp minor op. 131 and
Franz Schubert, Quartet Movement C minor D 703

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