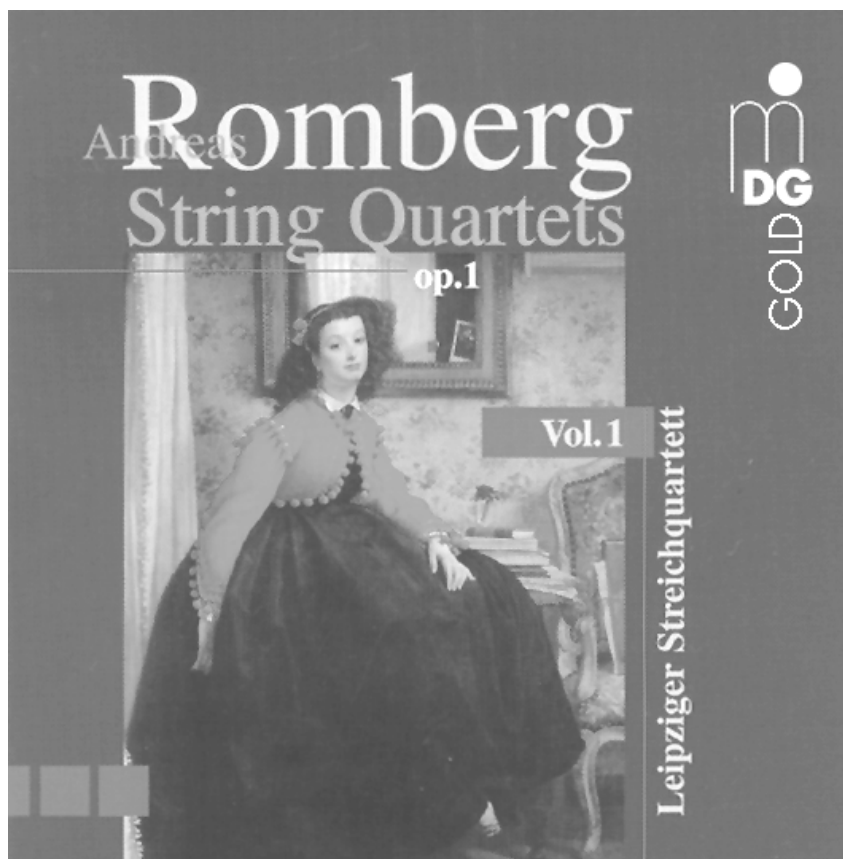


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02/00-(6)

Title:
Andreas Romberg
String Quartets op. 1

Musicians:
Leipziger Streichquartett

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:
MDG 307 0963-2

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New Millennium

The Leipzig String Quartet, which has left the competition in the dust with its recordings of the greats Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and Brahms on more than thirty MDG CDs, now for the first time takes up the cause of a relatively unknown composer. The ensemble rings in the new millennium with the forgotten quartets of the Beethoven contemporary Andreas Romberg. Vol. 1 features first-time recordings of his Opus 1 in top-quality performances.

Measuring Up

An enthusiastic review of these quartets was published in the renowned *Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung* of Leipzig in June 1799. The reviewer, evidently bored by the failure of recent quartets to measure up to the high standards of Mozart and Haydn, wrote: "The reviewer takes genuine delight in being able to recommend the quartets of A. Romberg, which in every respect can be heard with pleasure, even among the most outstanding such works by Haydn and Mozart."

Making the Rounds

Nobody would think that the author of these successful quartets was making his compositional debut at the relatively advanced age of twenty-seven. Romberg had made the concert rounds as a child

prodigy and made a name for himself as a violinist at an early age in the musical world. The highly regarded

artist initially resided in Bonn and then spent two years in Paris before settling in Hamburg. In 1815 he moved on to Gotha to serve as court music director to Duke August, a knowledgeable patron of the arts.

World Ranking

The young artists of the Leipzig String Quartet already enjoy a top ranking in the world of German chamber music. Their international concert tours and standard-setting recordings have brought them worldwide critical acclaim.

F. Schubert: Complete String Quartets
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307 0609-2



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Gramophone