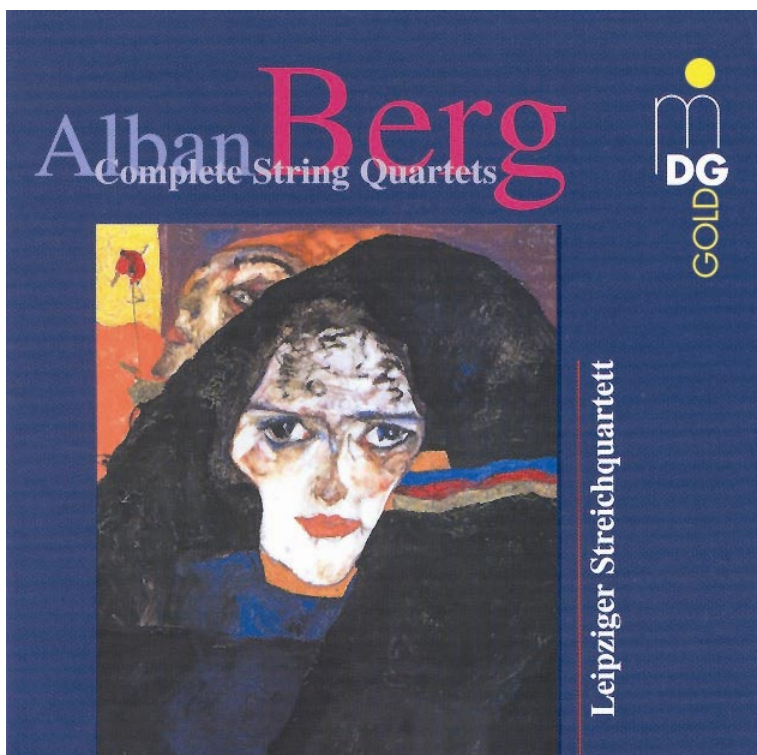


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09/00- (5)

Title:

**Alban Berg:**  
Complete String Quartets  
Quartet op. 3  
Lyrische Suite  
**Webern:** 3 Pieces

Musicians:

Leipziger Streichquartett

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:  
MDG 307 0996-2

UPC-Code:



AUDIOPHILE REFERENCE  
THE BEST OF 2001



### Brilliant Achievement

After the overwhelming successes of its CDs featuring the Schönberg quartets and Webern's complete string quartets, the Leipzig String Quartet concludes its recording of the works of the Second Viennese School with the String Quartet op. 3 and Lyric Suite by Alban Berg. How have the critics reacted so far? "This is very impressive playing indeed...Enthusiastically recommended." (BBC Music Magazine)- "an effective show-case for a superb ensemble" (Gramophone).

### New Beginnings

The two key works by Alban Berg recorded here are linked in two special ways: both compositions were inspired by major affairs of the heart and marked the inauguration of a new compositional principle that went on to form the basis of subsequent works.

### Fascinating Fabric

The extreme intensity of expression in the tone color of Berg's String Quartet op. 3 reflects the deep emotional crisis that he went through while fighting for the hand of his later wife Helene. It was if "in defiance" that in 1910 he carefully wove together this fascinating fabric on the basis of tightly constructed part-writing patterns - while departing from traditional formal models and their cadential basis.

### Firm Footing

It was with the six-movement Lyric Suite composed during the autumn of 1925 that Berg first turned to Schönberg's twelve-tone technique. Its secret dedicatee was Hanna Fuchs-Robettin, the wife of a Prague industrialist. It was premiered by the legendary Kolisch Quartet in January 1927 and since then, more so than any other work of the Second Viennese School, has gained firm footing in the concert repertoire.

### Fantastisch

The Leipzig String Quartet :  
"... highly acclaimed and price winning performances the world over." (MIDEM NEWS)  
"One of the most sophisticated and imaginative ensembles recording at the moment." (BBC Radio 3)  
"...a new dimension" (FONOFORUM)

### Arnold Schönberg: Complete String Quartets

- No. 2 & 4 MDG 307 0935-2
- No. 1 & String Quartet (1897) MDG 307 0919-2
- No. 3 & Verklärte Nacht op.4 MDG 307 0773-2

### Anton Webern:

Complete String Quartets and Piano Quintet (1907)  
MDG 307 0589-2

