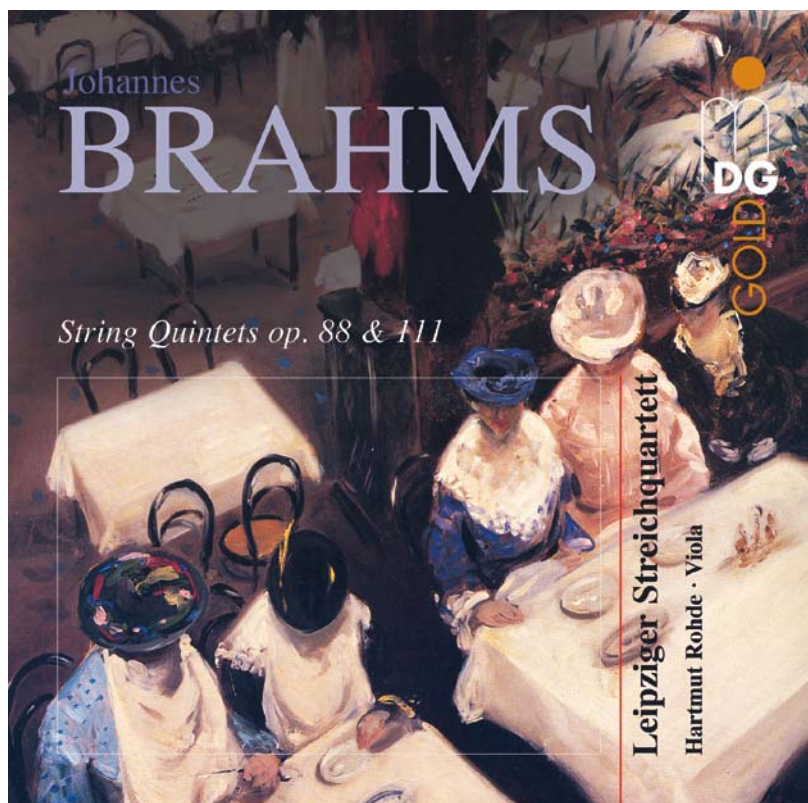


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06/04-(5)

Title:

Johannes Brahms
String Quintets
op. 88 and 111

Musicians:

Leipziger Streichquartett
Hartmut Rohde, viola

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:

MDG 307 1251-2

UPC-Code:



Quintet Wonders

Our complete recording of the chamber oeuvre of Johannes Brahms continues with the Leipzig String Quartet and star guest Hartmut Rohde on a release featuring the two String Quintets opp. 88 and 111: "Do not ask that I say that your new G major quintet is more beautiful than the F major quintet: both are wonderfully beautiful, and that's that!"

Listening Impressions

It was also Brahms's friend Theodor Billroth who raved about the first quintet: "After every movement there stands 'In the Spring of 1882.' And truly everything sounds and breathes spring."

Naturalness, harmoniousness, and joy immediately come to mind as attributes for the second quintet. One listener even heard "the cheerful, relaxed atmosphere of the Vienna Prater," and the famous composer could only confirm this impression: "Isn't it so? And the many pretty girls in it?"

Double Effort

In many genres Brahms composed exactly two works: two piano concertos, two orchestral overtures and serenades, two cello sonatas, two sextets, and two quintets. Like many other works by Brahms, an earlier quintet attempt was later destroyed by the composer; today it survives only in its reworking as the Piano Quartet op. 34.

Expanded Resources

The so-called Viennese String Quintet, scored for two violas, reached its climax with Mozart's works. Mendelssohn later returned to this genre, and Brahms employed the expanded sound possibilities of this instrumentation not only for powerful orchestral extension but also for the intimate juxtaposition of individual sound groups.

Convincing Demonstration

"This is the finest Brahms playing one could ever hope to hear" (*Classic CD*). The outstanding skill of the Leipzig String Quartet has been impressively demonstrated on more than fifty CDs on MDG.

Johannes Brahms: String Quartet op. 67,
String Sextet op. 18
(with Hartmut Rohde and Michael Sanderling)
MDG 307 0969-2



Johannes Brahms: String Quartet op. 51,2
+ Clarinet Quintet op. 115
(with Karl Leister, clarinet)
MDG 307 0719-2



F. Mendelssohn Bartholdy

Complete String Quartets
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Vol. 2: MDG 307 1168-2
Vol. 3: MDG 307 1056-2
Vol. 4: MDG 307 1057-2

