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10/05-(6)

Title:

Maurice Ravel:

Quartet

Germaine Tailleferre:

Quartet (1919)

Darius Milhaud:

String Quartet No. 4

Musicians:

Leipziger Streichquartett

Number of CDs: 1

Order Number:

MDG 307 1359-2

UPC-Code:



Powerhouse

Three examples of French music at its most flamboyant – three examples of ground-breaking chamber music performed with crystalline clarity, with the Leipzig String Quartet placing its immense abilities in the service of Ravel, Tailleferre and Milhaud.

Electricity works

All three works bank on the immediacy of their thrillingly expressive language, deriving their emotional intensity from the development of, and links between, types of material that at first sight appear to be unconnected. For a moment, unrelated ideas are reconciled, without relinquishing their sense of dispartateness.

Fireworks

Maurice Ravel (1875–1937), Germaine Tailleferre (1892–1983) and Darius Milhaud (1892–1974) were all more or less the same age, having not yet turned thirty, when they wrote the string quartets that feature on this CD. In all three cases we are dealing with works by young composers that exude youthful zest and coruscating brilliance.

Network

Tailleferre makes uninhibited use of various models and possibilities from the whole history of the string quartet, while Milhaud too avails himself of hints of much earlier styles and the related world of the sublime. For its part, Ravel's String Quartet marks the

technical and aesthetic change of direction in French music of the early 20th century.

Purification works

The sixty or so CDs that the Leipzig String Quartet has made and that include complete recordings of works by Mendelssohn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Brahms, Ives, Weill, Dessau, Eisler, Berg, Schoenberg and Webern have received countless awards and have been hailed by FONOFORUM, for example, as "benchmark performances" revealing "an optimum of fidelity to the work and artistic clarity".

Johannes Brahms:

String Sextet op. 36, String Quartet op. 51,1

(+ Hartmut Rohde and Peter Bruns)

MDG 307 1281-2

String Quartet op. 67, String Sextet op. 18

(+ Hartmut Rohde and Michael Sanderling)

CD: MDG 307 0969-2

DVD-Audio: MDG 907 0969-5

Piano Quintet op. 34

(+ Andreas Staier, piano)

MDG 307 1218-2

Anton Bruckner:

String Quintet, String Quartet

(+ Hartmut Rohde, viola)

MDG 307 1297-2

