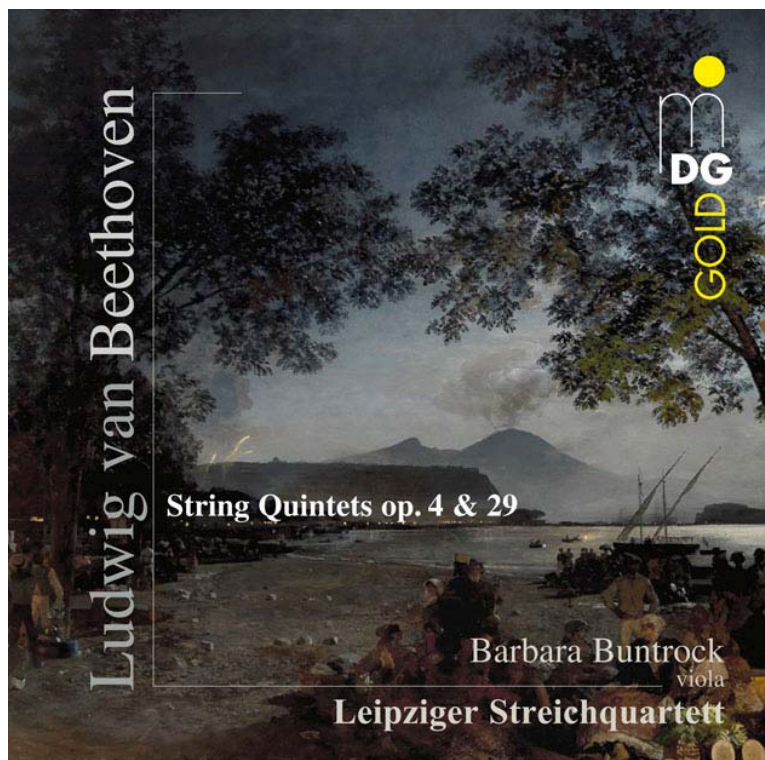


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11/11-(5)

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770-1827)
String Quintets op. 4 + 29

Leipziger Streichquartett
Barbara Buntrock, Viola

1 CD

Order No.: MDG 307 1715-2

UPC-Code:



LC06768

Expanded Ensemble

The Leipzig String Quartet expands its ensemble in its tribute to the genre of the string quintet. With help from Barbara Buntrock (viola) the four musicians present two Beethoven quintets from his Vienna years. With these compositions the Bonn native followed a trend founded by Mozart in Vienna in 1787.

Numbers Game

Beethoven composed his first string quintet in 1793 while receiving instruction from Joseph Haydn. A wind octet composed by him in Bonn as table music for the archbishop served as his model. Two years later he thoroughly reworked the quintet and presented it for publication as his op. 4. Hardly any traces of the octet are still in evidence. The quintet is clearly more extensive than its forerunner and includes a new second trio for the minuet.

Added Advantage

Beethoven's Quintet op. 29 from 1800-01 is distinguished by an extraordinary wealth of sound. The master of the string quartet for a change did not focus on precisely delineated themes and their elaboration. He employed great virtuosity in his exploitation of the potential offered by one more part. The work met with a favorable response from the public and the critics. After the publication of the score of the quintet in 1828, an anonymous reviewer wrote that it was "the most brilliant and artistically mature work of our great master."

Upper Echelons

Elegance and taste, a natural virtuosity, most finely balanced dynamics and intonation together with the most precise knowledge of the score and a flawless intuition for the right moment to let go – these are the hallmarks of the Leipzig String Quartet, which has produced countless standard-setting recordings with its more than seventy CDs during twenty years with MDG and has long had its place in the chamber music world's upper echelons.

Ludwig van Beethoven: Complete String Quartets

op. 59, 1 and 14	MDG 307 0707-2
op. 131 and 135	MDG 307 0820-2
op. 59, 3 and 74	MDG 307 0852-2
op. 18, 1 and 4	MDG 307 0853-2
op. 127 and 132	MDG 307 0854-2
op. 18, 2 and 5	MDG 307 0855-2
op. 18, 3 and 18, 6	MDG 307 0856-2
op. 59, 2 and 95	MDG 307 0857-2

