



Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy: String Quartet in E flat major (Op. 44 No. 3), Four Pieces for String Quartet (Op. 81) & Octet in E flat major (Op. 20)

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Both [musicweb-international.com](#) and myself, having missed out on earlier volumes, have entered this series via the side door, as it were. Nor have my MusicWeb International colleagues reviewed any of the earlier volumes, it seems, though they have been generally welcomed elsewhere.

My only serious reservation about this fine third volume concerns the inclusion of the Octet – wonderful music, but so popular that you may well already have one or more very good recordings. Not a problem if you don't mind acquiring another fine recording, but bear in mind the almost-complete set of Mendelssohn's works for string quartet – all six numbered works – from the Cherubini Quartet on a budget 3-CD EMI set – review – and the even more complete Henschel Quartet on Arte Nova – review. The Arte Nova set is available only as a download, in 320kb/s mp3 from sainsburysentertainment.co.uk: the CDs are on offer for as much as £109.60 as I write.