

Press Info:

## **SHOSTAKOVITCH**

## Complete String Quartets Vol. V

String Quartet No. II in F minor, Op. 122 String Quartet No. I3 in B flat minor, Op. 138 String Quartet No. I5 in E flat minor, Op. 144

## MANDELRING QUARTETT

Sebastian Schmidt, violin Nanette Schmidt, violin Roland Glassl, viola Bernhard Schmidt, violoncello

"... to give it a strong vote as the Shostakovich cycle of choice." (International Record Review 5/2009)

With Vol. V the Mandelring Quartet has accomplished its complete edition of the fifteen string quartets of Dmitri Shostakovich. Highly praised in the trade press as one of the outstanding complete editions of our time the last volume presents the Quartets Nos. II, I3 and I5. The musical language of these late chamber works becomes more jagged, the colours more pale and the tone more elegiac.

The Eleventh String Quartet of Dmitri Shostakovich received its premiere in the former Leningrad at the preliminary celebrations of the composer's sixtieth birthday. During the very same night, the composer suffered a serious heart attack which changed his life and way of thinking. While his daily life was determined by stays in hospital and at health resorts, Shostakovich occupied himself very frequently with death in his late works. And the three works recorded here, too, are either commemorative works written for colleagues or requiem-compositions in view of the composer's own end.

Quartet No. II (1966), dedicated to the late violinist of the Beethoven Quartet, an ensemble with which the composer was intimately acquainted, appears as a multi-movement suite in which character pieces such as the "Etude" and the "Humoresque" turn up – with a grim, cynical humour, of course. The 13<sup>th</sup> Quartet composed in 1970 is dedicated to the violist of the Beethoven Quartet and is a portrait, in a single monumental movement, of this instrument that Shostakovich loved so much. In the final, 15<sup>th</sup> Quartet (1974), the composer finally seizes upon a radical formal solution: six Adagio movements come together to form a large work of mourning which bears no more dedication...

With Shostakovich's fifteen string quartets the Mandelring Quartet presents a quartet cycle, which in its entirety probably represents the most important corpus of string quartets of the twentieth century.

At www.audite.de you find additional information about the production, video impressions from the recording sessions and interviews with the musicians.

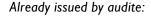
ordering number: audite 92.530 EAN: 4022143925305

internet: http://www.audite.de/sc.php?cd=92530









Schubert: String Quartets Vol. I (SACD)	
Schubert: String Quartets Vol. II (SACD)	
Schubert: String Quartets Vol. III (SACD)	
Shostakovich: String Quartets Vol. I (SACD)	
Shostakovich: String Quartets Vol. II (SACD + DVD	)
Shostakovich: String Quartets Vol. III (SACD)	
Shostakovich: String Quartets Vol. IV (SACD)	
Brahms & Gernsheim: String Quartets (CD)	
Brahms & Herzogenberg: String Quartets (CD)	
Brahms & Dessoff: String Quartets (CD)	



	OUTSTAINDING
aud. 92.507	EAN 4022143925077
aud. 92.524	EAN 4022143925244
aud. 92.552	EAN 4022143925527
aud. 92.526	EAN 4022143925268
aud. 92.527	EAN 4022143925275
aud. 92.528	EAN 4022143925282
aud. 92.529	EAN 4022143925299
aud. 97.503	EAN 4022143975034
aud. 97.504	EAN 4022143975041
aud. 97.505	EAN 4022143975058

