



Press Release

ROBERT SCHUMANN

Piano Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 47*

Piano Quintet in E-flat major, Op. 44



MANDELRING QUARTETT

Sebastian Schmidt, violin

Nanette Schmidt, violin*

Roland Glassl, viola

Bernhard Schmidt, violoncello

CLAIRE-MARIE LE GUAY, piano

In his maturity Robert Schumann tended to internalise musical genres systematically and then to try them out in a creative frenzy. After the “song year” of 1840 and the “symphonic year” of 1841, his “chamber music year” followed and saw the creation of three string quartets and two of the nineteenth century’s most beautiful chamber pieces with piano. In the autumn of 1842, in a creative frenzy, Schumann composed the quintet Op. 44 and the quartet Op. 47 – the piano part was of course intended for his newly wedded wife Clara. In both works the energetic, even jubilant atmosphere of the outer movements, combining Mozart’s vitality, Bach’s polyphony and Schumann’s dreamy disposition, is ravishing. In the middle movements, delicate Scherzi à la Mendelssohn and two large-scale slow movements can be found: an expressive funeral march in the quintet and an expansive cantabile in the cello part of the quartet, which has become one of the most popular movements amongst Schumann’s chamber works.

In this new recording of these works, the **Mandelring Quartett** join forces with French pianist **Claire-Marie Le Guay**. A Winner of numerous international competitions Claire-Marie Le Guay plays regularly in the important international concert venues, appearing in solo recitals as well as in solo concerts with orchestra. In addition, her passion for chamber music has led her to play with noted soloists and ensembles.

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

- promotion video
- press and radio promotion
- 4 page digipac

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