

With its elfin *Scherzo* reminiscent of the music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a slow movement of ethereal beauty and a jubilant last movement of perpetual motion, Mendelssohn's *Octet* is one of the great masterpieces of chamber music. Conceived in orchestral terms, it is an astonishing feat of virtuosity from a sixteen-year old. Bruch's genial *Octet*, one of his last works, has something of Mendelssohn's exuberance and lightness of texture.

MENDELSSOHN • BRUCH

Octets

FELIX MENDELSSOHN-
BARTHOLDY (1809-47):

Octet in E flat major, Op. 20
for 4 violins, 2 violas and 2 cellos

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 I. Allegro moderato, ma con fuoco | 14:15 |
| 2 II. Andante | 7:22 |
| 3 III. Scherzo: Allegro leggierissimo | 4:19 |
| 4 IV. Presto | 5:54 |

MAX BRUCH (1838-1920):

Octet in B flat major, Op. posth. (1920)
for 4 violins, 2 violas, cello and
double bass*

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 5 I. Allegro moderato | 10:35 |
| 6 II. Adagio | 7:41 |
| 7 III. Allegro molto | 6:23 |

Kodály Quartet • Auer Quartet

*Zsolt Fejérvári, Double bass

Recorded at the Phoenix Studio, Budapest, Hungary, from 5th to 7th June, 2003,
and from 6th to 8th April, 2004.

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(Hamburger Kunsthalle, Germany / www.bridgeman.co.uk)



8.557270

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Playing Time
56:29



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