While Schoenberg's final two string quartets inhabit atonal sound worlds, the *Third* draws on Classical forms such as theme-and-variations, minuet and sonata-rondo, its unsettling opening movement recalling a fairytale picture, 'The Ghostship', its Adagio a movement of spiritual depth and beauty. Schoenberg was particularly pleased with his Fourth String Quartet, which follows a creative logic of continual development and variation derived from the music of Bach and Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms and Wagner. The Phantasy is a virtuosic peroration for violin with commentary from the piano, a prime example of Schoenberg's avowed aim to write 'really new music which, as it rests on tradition, is destined to become a tradition'.

Arnold **SCHOENBERG** (1874-1951)

1-4 String Quartet No. 3, Op. 30 (1927) ¹ 30:50

5-8 String Quartet No. 4, Op. 37 (1936) ² 33:51

9 Phantasy for Violin with Piano Accompaniment, Op. 47 (1949) ³ 10:10

Fred Sherry String Quartet

Jennifer Frautschi, Violin ¹ • Leila Josefowicz, Violin ² Jesse Mills, Violin 1,2 • Richard O'Neill, Viola 1 Paul Neubauer, Viola ² • Fred Sherry, Cello ^{1, 2}

Rolf Schulte, Violin 3 • Christopher Oldfather, Piano 3 **Recordings supervised by Robert Craft**

Full recording details can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the booklet Producer: Philip Traugott • Recording engineers: Tim Martyn (tracks 1-4, 9); Kevin Boutote (tracks 5-8) Editing and Mixing Engineer: Tim Martyn • Booklet Notes: Fred Sherry Publishers: Universal Edition (tracks 1-4); G. Schirmer, Inc. (tracks 5-8); C. F. Peters (track 9) Cover painting: A Sea Ghost by George Frederick Watts (1817-1904) (© Trustees of the Watts Gallery, Compton, Surrey, UK / The Bridgeman Art Library)



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SCHOENBERG:

String

Quartets

Nos.

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