

Louis Spohr composed string quartets throughout his career, the *String Quartet No. 36* being his last completed large-scale work, composed in 1857 and modelled on those of Haydn and Mozart. As a result of depression during his later years, Spohr embargoed its performance, but as this recording shows it is a work of consummate craftsmanship. His *String Quartet No. 31* was composed eleven years earlier and found favour with Mendelssohn and Wagner for its tightly woven counterpoint and sophisticated character. The earliest piece here, the *Potpourri No. 4*, is a short virtuoso display piece that draws on favourite opera arias by his idol Mozart.

WORLD PREMIERE  
RECORDINGS

# Louis SPOHR

(1784-1859)

- |   |                                                                                                   |              |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
|   | <b>String Quartet No. 31 in A major, Op. 132</b>                                                  | <b>28:54</b> |
| 1 | I. Allegro vivace                                                                                 | 7:24         |
| 2 | II. Adagio                                                                                        | 6:45         |
| 3 | III. Scherzo: Vivace                                                                              | 6:53         |
| 4 | IV. Finale: Allegro molto                                                                         | 7:52         |
|   | <b>String Quartet No. 36 in G minor, Op. 157</b>                                                  | <b>21:09</b> |
| 5 | I. Allegro                                                                                        | 7:52         |
| 6 | II. Larghetto                                                                                     | 5:17         |
| 7 | III. Menuetto                                                                                     | 4:06         |
| 8 | IV. Finale: Allegro molto                                                                         | 3:54         |
| 9 | <b>Potpourri No. 4 in B major, Op. 24</b>                                                         | <b>10:25</b> |
|   | (Adagio con molto espressione – Allegretto – Andante –<br>Grazioso – Allegro vivace – Allegretto) |              |

## Moscow Philharmonic Concertino String Quartet

Jaroslav Krasnikov, Violin I • Sofia Krasnikova, Violin II

Olgia Zhmaeva, Viola • Victor Kozodov, Cello

Recorded in Studio No. 1 of the Russian State TV and Radio Company KULTURA, Moscow,  
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Engineers: Vladimir Samoilov and Andrey Volovikov • Booklet notes: Clive Brown and Keith Warsop

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8.225982

Playing Time  
60:28



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