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## GUSTAV HELSTED

*Decet & String Quartet*The Danish Sinfonietta (*Randers Kammerorkester*)

The Danish composer **Gustav Helsted** (1857-1924) was perceived by his contemporaries as modern and radical. As an advocate of the new, Late Romantic currents that he had encountered on his travels to Germany, France and Italy, he was described in his native Denmark as “...a questing artist who chooses his resources with extremely discerning taste, and who may therefore seem odd and unapproachable”. Today, however, Helsted’s music sounds both charming and accommodating with its strong Romantic expression, and despite the Continental inspiration it is clearly rooted in the Danish tradition and character. On this premiere recording **The Danish Sinfonietta** presents Helsted’s symphonically conceived *Decet* from 1891 and the dramatic F minor *String Quartet*, composed c. 1917.

**Decet in D major, Op. 18** (1891)

for flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn, 2 violins, viola, cello and double bass ... 34:30

- 1 I. Allegro moderato ..... 9:26
- 2 II. Theme and variations: Andante ..... 8:48
- 3 III. Scherzo: Allegro molto vivace ..... 5:51
- 4 IV. Finale: Adagio ma non troppo - Allegro ma non troppo - Allegro vivo -  
 Adagio ma non troppo - Allegro ma non troppo - Allegro molto ..... 10:25

**String Quartet in F minor, Op. 33** (c. 1917) ..... 27:04

- 5 I. Allegro con fuoco ..... 6:11
- 6 II. Presto appassionato ..... 6:18
- 7 III. Andante sostenuto ..... 7:24
- 8 IV. Allegro risoluto ..... 7:11

World premiere recordings

Total: 61:34