



AMERICAN CLASSICS

This recording gathers four string quartets by American composers who are widely divergent in style and manner, and who have made a distinctive and personal contribution to this endlessly re-inventive format. Ralph Evans is more familiar as a performer than composer. Finally completed in 1995, his *First String Quartet* is written in a non-derivative style, with tuneful melodies, lively counterpoint and piquant harmonies. Philip Glass has completed five mature quartets, his *Second Quartet* deriving from a theatrical presentation of Samuel Beckett's prose poem *Company*. The self-styled 'bad boy of American music', George Antheil wrote three string quartets, the third of which is permeated by a folk-music ambience. Best remembered for his film scores, Bernard Herrmann had not released a concert work for 25 years when he wrote *Echoes*. Its title applies to the thematic connections unobtrusively linking the ten sections of this one-movement piece.

Includes Free Downloadable Bonus Track
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Please see inside booklet for full details

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FOUR AMERICAN QUARTETS

Playing Time:
62:27

Ralph Evans (b. 1953):

String Quartet No. 1 (1995)

15:02

1 Moderato

6:52

2 Andante espressivo

5:27

3 Allegro scherzando

2:43

Philip Glass (b. 1937): String Quartet No. 2 'Company' (1983)

8:51

4 I. $\text{♩} = 96$

2:47

5 II. $\text{♩} = 160$

1:49

6 III. $\text{♩} = 96$

1:49

7 IV. $\text{♩} = 160$

2:26

George Antheil (1900-1959):
String Quartet No. 3 (1948)

18:16

8 Allegretto

5:31

9 Largo

5:40

10 Quasi presto (Scherzo)

2:21

11 Allegro giocoso

4:44

Bernard Herrmann (1911-1975):

Echoes for String Quartet (1965)

20:17

Fine Arts Quartet

Ralph Evans, Violin • Efim Boico, Violin

Yuri Gandelsman, Viola • Wolfgang Laufer, Cello

Recorded at Il Bagno Konzertgalerie, Steinfurt, Germany,
from 17th to 19th March, 2007.

Produced and engineered by Florian B. Schmidt

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