

Playing
Time:
62:27

FOUR AMERICAN QUARTETS

Ralph Evans (b. 1953):

String Quartet No. 1 (1995)

- | | | |
|----------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Moderato | 15:02 |
| 2 | Andante espressivo | 6:52 |
| 3 | Allegro scherzando | 5:27 |
| | | 2:43 |

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

- | | | |
|----------|--------------------|-------------|
| 4 | I. ♩ = 96 | 8:51 |
| 5 | II. ♩ = 160 | 2:47 |
| 6 | III. ♩ = 96 | 1:49 |
| 7 | IV. ♩ = 160 | 1:49 |
| | | 2:26 |

George Antheil (1900-1959):

String Quartet No. 3 (1948)

- | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 8 | Allegretto | 18:16 |
| 9 | Largo | 5:31 |
| 10 | Quasi presto (Scherzo) | 5:40 |
| 11 | Allegro giocoso | 2:21 |
| | | 4:44 |

Bernard Herrmann (1911-1975):

12 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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Booklet notes: Richard Whitehouse

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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.

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