

The New Zealand String Quartet's first Naxos recording of Mendelssohn's string quartets (8.570001) was praised as 'an auspicious start' by *Gramophone* and 'opulently recorded' by *Classic FM* magazine. Its warmly affectionate accounts continue with this second of three volumes, including Mendelssohn's posthumously published *Capriccio and Fugue in E minor* which display his polished mastery of counterpoint. The composer's respect for Beethoven is evident in both the quartets on this disc, although in his marriage of Classical style and Romantic impulse, Mendelssohn's vivacious brilliance and lyrical gifts are never overshadowed.

Felix
MENDELSSOHN-BARTHOLDY
 (1809–1847)
String Quartets • 2

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| 1 | Capriccio in E minor, Op. 81, No. 3 | 6:02 |
| | String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 13 | 30:32 |
| 2 | Adagio – Allegro vivace | 7:51 |
| 3 | Adagio non lento | 7:52 |
| 4 | Intermezzo: Allegretto con moto – Allegro di molto | 4:58 |
| 5 | Presto – Adagio non lento | 9:43 |
| 6 | Fugue in E flat major, Op. 81, No. 4 | 5:53 |
| | String Quartet No. 5 in E flat major, Op. 44, No. 3 | 35:46 |
| 7 | Allegro vivace | 12:42 |
| 8 | Scherzo: Assai leggero vivace | 4:09 |
| 9 | Adagio non troppo | 9:26 |
| 10 | Molto allegro con fuoco | 9:15 |



New Zealand String Quartet
 Helene Pohl, Violin I • Douglas Beilman, Violin II
 Gillian Ansell, Viola • Rolf Gjelsten, Cello



Recorded at St Anne's Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 27–30 July 2007
 Producers: Bonnie Silver & Norbert Kraft • Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver
 Editions: Peters (Capriccio, Fugue), Henle (Quartets) • Booklet notes: Keith Anderson
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8.570002

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 Playing Time
 78:35


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 Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch