

Following the release of their highly praised Naxos recording of Fauré's *Piano Quintets* (8.570938) – 'warmly expressive, their phrasing generous and intense' (*The Guardian*) – Cristina Ortiz and the Fine Arts Quartet again join forces for this recording of Franck's *Piano Quintet*, the extraordinary emotional range of which is unified by the tight thematic relationships typical of the composer's 'cyclic' structuring. His *String Quartet*, composed ten years later, is a summit of Franck's achievement, also cyclically conceived and revealing his admiration of Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Brahms.

César
FRANCK
(1822–1890)

String Quartet in D major, FWV 9	43:39
1 Poco lento – Allegro	13:46
2 Scherzo: Vivace	5:27
3 Larghetto	10:19
4 Finale: Allegro molto	14:02
Piano Quintet in F minor, FWV 7*	35:30
5 Molto moderato quasi lento	15:36
6 Lento, con molto sentimento	10:20
7 Allegro non troppo ma con fuoco	9:30

Fine Arts Quartet • *Cristina Ortiz, Piano

Ralph Evans, Efim Boico, Violins • Yuri Gandelman, Viola • Wolfgang Laufer, Cello



Recorded at the Salle de musique L'heure bleue, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, 19–22 March 2008
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Playing Time
79:19



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