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Playing Time
60:49



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Tomás Bretón's distinguished career as an opera composer and leading figure in Madrid's musical life at the turn of the 20th century has tended to overshadow the significant contribution he made to Spanish chamber music. He remained true to the historic roots of the string quartet genre – his *First String Quartet* being a tribute to the Viennese tradition in its Classical poise. The *Third String Quartet* exudes Mendelssohnian inspiration in its first movement with overtly Spanish idioms, the *Allegro no mucho* third movement also having been turned into a version for piano trio as the *Scherzo andalou*. This is the first of two albums of the complete string quartets.

LAURENT LÓPEZ
LUTHIER

Tomás
BRETÓN
(1850–1923)

Musicstry Studios

**String Quartet No. 3
in E minor (1909)***

- 1 I. Allegro cómodo
- 2 II. Andante
- 3 III. Allegro no mucho
- 4 IV. Allegro deciso

**String Quartet No. 1
in D major (1904)**

28:01	9:53	5 I. Allegro moderato non tanto	32:43
	6:02	6 II. Andante	7:27
	6:52	7 III. Scherzo. Allegro	6:56
	5:03	8 IV. Grave – Fuga: Moderato – Allegro	8:46

*WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Bretón String Quartet

Anne-Marie North, Violin I • Antonio Cárdenas Plaza, Violin II
Iván Martín Mateu, Viola • John Stokes, Cello

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