



DDD

8.573433

Playing Time
68:29

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Brahms's two *String Quartets, Op. 51* were the first he published but, completed in his 40th year, are very much mature masterpieces. He was very conscious of the tradition that lay behind the quartet genre, and the spirits of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert ensured that he took the greatest of care when preparing his own quartets. Each perfectly proportioned movement of these works creates its own unique expressive narrative, exploring bitter-sweet tonalities and thematic treatment ranging from tender lyricism to dramatic intensity.

Johannes
BRAHMS
(1833-1897)

String Quartets Nos. 1 and 2

String Quartet No. 1 in C minor, Op. 51, No. 1	33:02
① I. Allegro	10:52
② II. Romanze: Poco adagio	7:05
③ III. Allegretto molto moderato e comodo	9:04
④ IV. Allegro	6:00
String Quartet No. 2 in A minor, Op. 51, No. 2	35:27
⑤ I. Allegro non troppo	12:57
⑥ II. Andante moderato	10:04
⑦ III. Quasi minuetto, moderato	5:28
⑧ IV. Finale: Allegro non assai	6:58

New Zealand String Quartet

Helene Pohl, Violin I • Douglas Beilman, Violin II
Gillian Ansell, Viola • Rolf Gjelsten, Cello

Recorded at St Anne's Anglican Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from 16th to 18th July, 2014

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