



8.573454

DDD

Playing Time
76:36

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Brahms wrote his *String Quartet in B flat major, Op. 67* in 1876 and its largely unclouded and cheerful qualities culminate in a theme and variations finale of exceptional imagination and mastery of form. His last chamber music was inspired by a great exponent of the clarinet, Richard Mühlfeld, for whom he wrote four works including the *Clarinet Quintet*. This dazzling masterpiece is notable not only for its underlying elegiac mood but for its thematic interrelation and the wide expressive range of the solo instrument. The first two *String Quartets* can be heard on 8.573433 in performances described by *ClassicsToday* as "... passionate expressions of these scores."

Johannes
BRAHMS
(1833–1897)

String Quartet No. 3 in B flat major, Op. 67 (1876) 37:06

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Vivace | 10:37 |
| 2 | Andante | 7:53 |
| 3 | Agitato (Allegretto non troppo) | 8:03 |
| 4 | Poco allegretto con variazioni | 10:23 |

Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op. 115 (1891)* 39:23

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|---|---|-------|
| 5 | Allegro | 13:20 |
| 6 | Adagio – Più lento | 11:28 |
| 7 | Andantino – Presto non assai, ma con sentimento | 4:57 |
| 8 | Con moto | 9:24 |

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

Recorded at St Anne's Anglican Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 14–16 July 2015
Producers: Norbert Kraft & Bonnie Silver • Engineer & Editor: Norbert Kraft
Booklet notes: Keith Anderson
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