



8.573600

DDD

Playing Time
65:06

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An English aristocrat with a mixed heritage, Georges Onslow was highly regarded for his musical talents during his lifetime, being praised by Berlioz and Schumann and becoming known as the 'French Beethoven'. Onslow composed 34 string quintets at a time when the string quartet was dominant, and his discovery of the double bass to replace the second cello was transformative. Challenging notions of stringed instruments as being merely lyrical in character, these quintets are striking for their contrasts of warm expressiveness and great dramatic intensity. They are true hidden gems to rival the great composers of chamber music in this era.

Georges
ON SLOW
(1784–1853)

String Quintets • 1

String Quintet No. 20 in D minor, Op. 45 (1831)* 31:22

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|---|-------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | I. Allegro grandioso | 11:21 |
| 2 | II. Menuetto | 4:23 |
| 3 | III. Andante cantabile | 8:20 |
| 4 | IV. Finale: Allegro innocente | 7:09 |

String Quintet No. 26 in C minor, Op. 67 (1845) 33:38

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|---|---|-------|
| 5 | I. Introduzione: Molto moderato e grandioso | 13:13 |
| 6 | II. Scherzo | 4:56 |
| 7 | III. Andante | 7:29 |
| 8 | IV. Finale: Allegretto quasi allegro | 7:52 |

* WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDING

Elan Quintet

Benjamin Scherer Quesada, Violin I • Lelia Iancovici, Violin II
Julia Chu-Ying Hu, Viola • Dmitri Tsin, Cello • Matthew Baker, Double Bass

Recorded at the Auditorio de Rafelbunyol, Rafelbunyol, Valencia, Spain, 12–15 December 2015
Producer, Engineer & Editor: Phil Rowlands • Booklet notes: Katy Hamilton • Cover photo © Alex Baker
Violins: Italian, Turin, c. 1860 (I); Paolo Antonio Testore, 1737 (II) • Viola: Yuri Malinovsky, Moscow, 1991
Cello: Caressa & François, Paris, 1909 • Double Bass: unknown Tyrolean, c. 1750 • Tuning: 442