

The Czech-born composer Anton Reicha (1770–1836) was an exact contemporary of Beethoven – and his close friend from their mid-teens. The music of each man demonstrates an awareness of what the other was doing: they showed each other their compositions-in-progress. But although Reicha was closely associated with one of the best-known names in western culture, his own music has been grievously neglected: only his woodwind quintets have achieved any currency. Of his vast cycle of almost forty string quartets just one has been recorded before – an omission this ambitious project intends to put right, thereby revealing one of the most inventive and engaging spirits in classical music.



TOCC 0022

ANTON REICHA *Complete String Quartets, Volume One*

String Quartet in C major, Op. 48, No. 1

31:48

- | | | | |
|----------|-----|---------------------------|-------|
| 1 | I | <i>Allegro non troppo</i> | 13:38 |
| 2 | II | <i>Adagio</i> | 8:45 |
| 3 | III | <i>Menuetto: Allegro</i> | 5:20 |
| 4 | IV | <i>Finale: Presto</i> | 5:05 |

String Quartet in G major, Op. 48, No. 2

31:27

- | | | | |
|----------|-----|-------------------------------|-------|
| 5 | I | <i>Allegro</i> | 11:16 |
| 6 | II | <i>Adagio un poco Andante</i> | 8:20 |
| 7 | III | <i>Menuetto: Allegro</i> | 5:48 |
| 8 | IV | <i>Finale: Allegretto</i> | 6:03 |

Kreutzer Quartet

Peter Sheppard Skærvæd and Mihailo Trandafilovski, violins

Morgan Goff, viola

Neil Heyde, cello

TT 64:16

FIRST RECORDINGS

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