

The Israeli composer Paul Ben-Haim (1897–1974) was born Paul Frankfurter and made his early career in his native Munich. Reading the danger signs earlier than most, he emigrated to Palestine in 1933 and soon became one of the leading figures in the musical culture of the emerging Jewish community. His music mirrors this change of circumstance: the early String Quartet (1919) taps a vein of rich late Romanticism influenced by Richard Strauss, but the rhapsodic First String Quartet (1937) is coloured by middle-Eastern melisma and folk-rhythms.



TOCC 0214

PAUL BEN-HAIM Chamber Music for Strings

String Quartet No. 1, Op. 21 (1937)	28:41	String Quintet in E minor (1919)*	32:56
1 I <i>Con moto sereno</i>	7:34	5 I <i>Leidenschaftlich bewegt</i>	12:10
2 II <i>Molto vivace</i>	5:29	6 II <i>Sehr langsam, mit tiefster Empfindung</i>	10:20
3 III <i>Largo e molto sostenuto</i>	5:50	7 III <i>Finale: Rondo (Energisch bewegt)</i>	10:26
4 IV <i>Rondo – Finale (Allegretto commodo)</i>	9:48		

Carmel Quartet
Shuli Waterman, viola 5 – 7

TT 61:37

*FIRST RECORDING

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