

The Karlsruhe-based Josef Schelb (1894–1977) is one of the better-kept secrets of twentieth-century German music. His output was substantial: he lost most of his early music in a bombing raid in 1942, but – as if to make up for lost time – wrote some 150 more works after that. These four, for clarinet in various chamber combinations, show his music emerging from the influence of Hindemith and Berg and developing a freewheeling energy, contrapuntal command and rhythmic charge of its own – often animated by a touch of devilish humour.



TOCC 0358

JOSEF SCHELNB Chamber Music with Clarinet

Sonata for Clarinet and Piano (1947)*

- 1 I *Bewegt*
- 2 II *Ruhig*
- 3 III *Rasch*
- 4 IV *Lebhaft*

Quintet for Clarinet and Strings (1954)

- 5 I *Allegro moderato*
- 6 II *Larghetto*
- 7 III *Vivace*

19:08

- 6:27
- 4:31
- 3:08
- 5:02

Quartet for Clarinet, Viola, Cello and Piano (1955)* 17:57

- 8 I *Allegro* 5:03
- 9 II *Lento* 4:25
- 10 III *Presto* 3:56
- 11 IV *Allegro non tanto* 4:33

Quartet for Clarinet, Violin, Cello and Piano (1965)*

15:03

- 12 I *Allegro moderato* 4:26
- 13 II *Adagio* 4:24
- 14 III *Vivace* 2:32
- 15 IV *Allegro mosso* 3:41

Busch Kollegium Karlsruhe

Bettina Beigelbeck, clarinet

Yasushi Ideue, violin 5–7 12–15

Ayu Ideue, violin 5–7

Wolfgang Wahl, viola 5–11

Gabriela Bradley, cello 8–11

Bernhard Lörcher, cello 1–7 12–15

Manfred Kratzer, piano 1–4 8–15

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* FIRST RECORDINGS



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