The Czech composer, Martinů, was enormously prolific as a composer. With seven numbered quartets, the string quartet was one of his favourite forms of composition. Although, from the 1930s onwards, Martinu came to make increasing use of Czech thematic material, he spent the last 36 years of his life outside his native country. Although the String Quartet No. 3, written in Paris in 1929, explores new timbres, it has discernible elements of contemporary French influence and textures that occasionally recall Debussy. String *Quartet No. 6*, written in New York in 1946, is noteworthy for its Bartókian textures and rhythms.

## **Bohuslay** MARTINU (1890-1959)

	String Quartet No. 3	12:30
1	Allegro	4:21
2	Andante	4:41
3	Vivo	3:19
	String Quartet No. 6	21:15
4	Adagio moderato	6:41
5	Andante	6:56
6	Allegro	7:38
	Duo for Violin and Cello	14:19
7	Preludium: Andante moderato	5:05
8	Rondo: Allegro con brio	9:14
	Three Madrigals for Violin and Viola	15:42
9	Poco allegro	3:52
10	Poco andante	6:01
11	Allegro	5:49

## Martinů Ouartet

Lubomír Havlàk, Violin I 1-6 9-11 • Petr Maceček, Violin II 1-8 Jan Jīsa, Viola 1-6 9-11 • Jitka Vlašánková, Cello 1-8

Recorded: 6-7 March 1996 1-3, 12 March 1996 9-11, 11 May 1996 7-8, and 19-20 November 1996 4-6 in the Martínek Studio, Prague, Czechoslovakia Producer and Engineer: Václav Zamazal • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson • Cover Photo: Boulevard Montmartre, Morning, Grey Day, 1897, (oil on canvas) by Camille Pissarro (1831–1903) (Bridgeman Art Library)



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MARTINŮ: String Quartets Nos. 3

and 6

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63:42

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