Ferdinand Ries’s life and work are inextricably intertwined with those of his friend and teacher Beethoven, and both Cello Sonatas, Op. 20 and Op. 21 were dedicated to cellist Bernhard Romberg, who performed regularly with Beethoven. Ries exploits Romberg’s extraordinary sound quality in the lower register of the cello in music that resonates with references to colleagues such as Haydn and Hummel. Ries’s final Cello Sonata, Op. 125, completes a triptych that richly deserves its place in the cello repertoire.

Ferdinand RIES
(1784–1838)

Cello Sonata in C major, Op. 20 (1808) 19:30
1. Allegro con brio 8:38
2. Adagio 2:08
3. Polonaise. Allegretto moderato 8:41

Cello Sonata in A major, Op. 21 (1808) 26:57
4. Allegro 11:40
5. Andantino quasi allegretto 5:20
7. Rondo. Allegro ma non troppo 5:39

Cello Sonata in G minor, Op. 125 (1823) 29:24
8. Grave – Allegro 15:32
9. Larghetto con moto 5:42
10. Rondo. Allegretto 8:07

Martin Rummel, Cello • Stefan Stroissnig, Piano

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