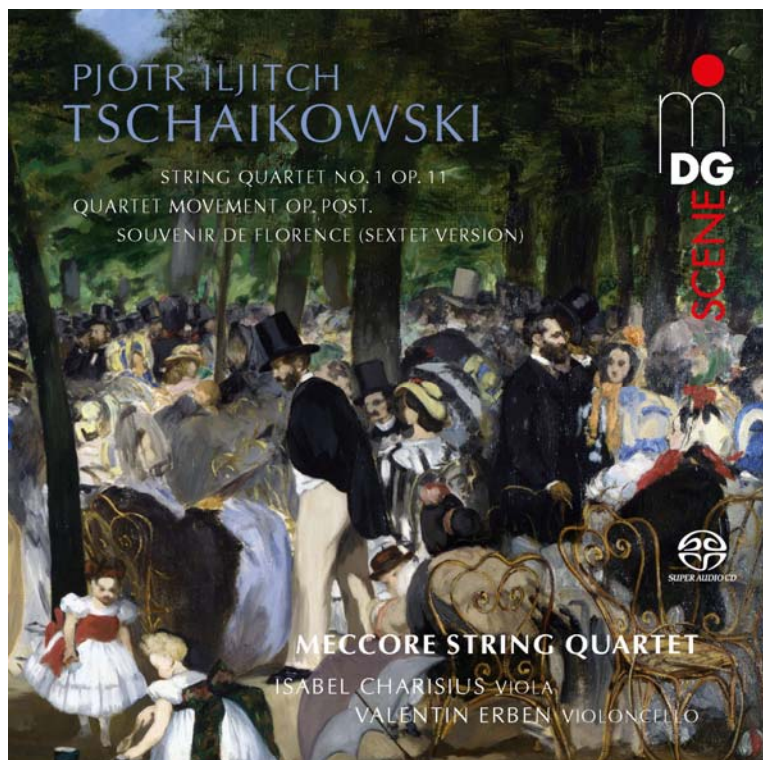


NEW • NOUVEAUTE • NEUHEIT

MDG
SCENE



09/18-(5)

Pjotr Iljitsch Tchaikovsky
(1840 - 1893)
Souvenir de Florence op. 70
(Sextet version)
String Quartet No. 1
Quartet movement op. post

Meccore String Quartet
Isabel Charisius, viola
Valentin Erben, violoncello

1 Hybrid-SACD

MDG 903 2091-6

UPC-Code:



7 60623 20916 6

222[®]
RECORDING

LC06768

Six-Four Venture

"A gripping interpretation passing every comparative test." This was the press verdict concerning the MDG debut of the Meccore String Quartet with the string quartets of Edvard Grieg. Now the young Polish ensemble turns to works by Tchaikovsky. The attractive program features his first quartet, the famous sextet "Souvenir de Florence," and a quartet movement from his study years. The Meccore musicians receive top-quality reinforcement from Isabel Charisius and Valentin Erben of the Alban Berg Quartet – guaranteeing you chamber performances of the highest international excellence!

Tchaikovsky's All-Stars

And this combination is an audible boon for the sextet. The big sound produced by the six musicians can compete with that of many a string orchestra. However, the ensemble reveals its true qualities in the filigree passages - at the beginning of the enchanting serenade in the second movement or in the raging trio. Here the instrumentalists play a fast-paced game of musical catch that is a delight to hear, and the magnificent six-part (!) fugue in the finale has surely only rarely been more beautifully and marvelously rendered.

Tolstoy's Tears

The Meccore String Quartet also cuts an outstanding figure in the first quartet. The dance element gets its fair share, and so do the folkloric melodies that often are of Ukrainian inspiration. As if by magic, the

soaring beginning immediately captivates the listener, and the great Tolstoy himself is said to have been moved to tears by the second movement.

Superb Audio Culture

The quartet movement from Tchaikovsky's youth forms a welcome complement. Within its unusual frame consisting of a slow introduction and conclusion, it develops a cosmos of melodic ideas and original rhythms – that is, precisely what we would expect from him. The whole is captured in superb three-dimensional sound quality, which makes this new release on Super Audio CD a genuine listening sensation.

Edvard Grieg

String Quartet op. 27,
Quartet F major, Fugue
Meccore String Quartet
MDG 903 1998-6 (Hybrid-SACD)



"... playing of immediacy and bite. Their fortes are full of meaty depth, their pianissimos whisper magically. The SACD sound quality of the recording is excellent, too." (BBC Music Magazine)