

Rossini - Wind Quartets (1986)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 26 April 2012 16:11 - Last Updated Tuesday, 15 April 2014 10:59

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Quartet No.1 F Major / Fa Majeur / F-Dur (10:40) 1 *Allegro Moderato* 4:48 2 *Andante* 3:36 3 *Rondo* 2:21 Quartet No.2 G Major / Sol Majeur / G-Dur (11:54)
4 *Moderato* 6:41 5 *Andante* 2:59 6 *Allegro* 2:13
Quartet No.3 F Major / Fa Majeur / F-Dur (13:10)
7 *Allegro* 7:06 8 *Andante* 2:42 9 *Allegretto* 3:16
Quartet No.4 B Flat Major / Si Bémol Majeur / B-Dur (11:45)
10 *Allegro Vivace* 6:07 11 *Andante* 3:16 12 *Rondo* 2:16
Quartet No.5 D Major / Ré Majeur / D-Dur (12:35)
13 *Allegro Spiritoso* 6:58 14 *Andante Assai* 2:18 15 *Rondo* 3:10
Quartet No.6 F Major / Fa Majeur / F-Dur (9:40)
16 *Andante* 3:46 17 *Theme And Variations* 5:45
Consortium Classicum: Bassoon – Karl-Otto Hartmann Clarinet – Dieter Klöcker Composed By – Gioacchino Rossini Ensemble – Consortium Classicum Flute – Wolfgang Dünschede Horn – Klaus Wallendorf

The title of this new Sony Classical CD—"Rossini: Six Quartets for Flute, Clarinet, Horn, and Bassoon"—is bound to be received with a grain of scepticism since Rossini never wrote any quartets for flute, clarinet, horn and bassoon. True, a German clarinettist in the orchestra of Rossini's Thâtre Italien in Paris, Friedrich Berr, made a transcription for that particular wind quartet of five of Rossini's six early string sonatas, but agreeable as the transcriptions are! can't think that they are remotely interesting to anyone other than wind players looking for a break from more grown-up fare on offer elsewhere in the classical repertory. Berr's neglect of the delightful Sonata No. 3 also counts against the project.

Sony's recording provides us with a player's ear perspective on the music. Like the rival Calliope disc it manages to convey quite a lot of key clatter as well. It is always a pleasure to hear these gifted players—Wolfgang Schulz et a/—but from the repertoire point of view this is a

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street-weary mongrel of a disc. ---RO ,Gramophone.

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