



Press Info:

**The RIAS
Amadeus Quartet Recordings
VOL. I**

BEETHOVEN STRING QUARTETS

Op. 18 Nos. 1-6, Op. 59 Nos. 1-3,
Op. 95, Op. 127, Op. 131, Op. 130,
Op. 135, Op. 133, Op. 132, Op. 29

AMADEUS QUARTET

Cecil Aronowitz, viola (Op. 29)

Since the beginning of their career, the legendary Amadeus Quartet regularly came to make recordings at the studios of the RIAS in Berlin. Thus a representative cross-section of the ensemble's repertoire came into being in the archive there, which is to be released by audite in a total of six volumes.

At the beginning of this new series is the (almost) complete Beethoven cycle, recorded during the years from 1950 to 1967 and now being made available to the public for the first time. The recording documents how the Amadeus Quartet develops the Beethovenian quartet cosmos with continuous aspiration towards the highest standards. The development of the Beethoven interpretations also shows the evolution of the ensemble as a whole.

The String Quintet in C major, Op. 20 recorded together with the violist Cecil Aronowitz, is by no means merely a substitute for the String Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 74, which was not taken into account in the production plans of the RIAS.

The RIAS studio recordings are also distinguished for the fact that each movement of a work has been recorded in one continuous take. The resulting intensity combines the excitement of a live situation with the advantages of the studio setting. These recordings thus stand in contrast to later studio productions of the same repertoire.



This release is furnished with a "producer's comment"  by producer Ludger Böckenhoff on our home page.



This CD forms part of our series "Legendary Recordings" and bears the stamp "1st Master Release". This term stands for the exceptional quality of audite's archive releases which are all, without exception, produced using original tapes from the radio archives. Usually, these are the original analogue tapes with tape speeds of up to 76 cm/s which are of astonishingly high quality, even by today's standards. In addition, the process of re-mastering – executed with professional expertise and sensitivity – reveals hitherto hidden details of the interpretations, creating a sonic image of superior quality. CD releases produced from private recordings of radio broadcasts or old 78rpm records cannot match this level of sound quality.

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