

PLAYS ON ALL CD-AND SACD-PLAYERS!



Press Info:

LOUIS MASSONNEAU
(1766-1848)

THREE QUARTETS

FOR OBOE AND STRING TRIO

Quartet No. 1 in F major

Quartet No. 2 in B-flat major*

Quartet No. 3 in C major*

* PREMIERE RECORDINGS



Ensemble Più

The **Oboe Quartets** by **Louis Massonneau** (1766-1848), a German composer of French origin, were re-discovered by the *Ensemble Più* in the Landesbibliothek Mecklenburg-Vorpommern in Schwerin. Already published in 1798 by Jean August Böhme in Hamburg, the quartets nevertheless remained largely unknown – unjustly so as they convince through their pleasant thematic invention and their varied use of the oboe as both a solo- and an ensemble-instrument.

A traditionalist, Massonneau remained a court musician during the transitional period between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries: without claims to radical innovation the composer skilfully combines lovely tunes, extraordinary sounds and surprising thematic turns.

Since its foundation, the *Ensemble Più* has preferred to perform works that are (still) unknown, specialising in music of the classical era. The oboe quartets on this SACD are presented as a premiere recording with which the Ensemble Più not only marks the first birthday of its collaboration with audite, but also celebrates its tenth anniversary.

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