



Leoš Janáček: Complete String Quartets

aud 92.545

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[Fanfare](#) (Andrew Quint - 2011.11.01)

On a superb-sounding SACD, Audite gives us Janáček's string quartets performed by the Mandelring Quartet, whose Shostakovich cycle was so rewarding. The wrinkle here is that "Intimate Letters" (Quartet No. 2) is heard both in the familiar version and with viola d'amore substituting for viola. Janáček, infatuated with Kamila Stosslová, originally planned to employ this "instrument of love," and its presence subtly modifies the effect of the piece.