



02/09-(5)

Title:

Prinz Louis Ferdinand
(1772-1806)
Complete Piano Trios Vol. 3
Andante with Variations op. 4
Piano Quartet op. 5
Larghetto with Variations op. 11

Musicians:

Trio Parnassus
Thomas Selditz, viola
Stanislau Anishchanka, double bass

1 CD

Order Number: MDG 303 1549-2

UPC-Code:



Royal Revelation

After Frederick the Great Prince Louis Ferdinand was certainly the only Prussian royal who revealed a double talent in music culture and in the military sphere. He penned all the compositions on this CD in the encampment outside Zwickau that began during the winter of 1805/06. Although a decisive battle against the French was in the offing, it was here that the prince wrote his most beautiful quartets – probably owing to a passionate love. Beethoven loved these works and valued Louis Ferdinand as a virtuoso pianist, and Robert Schumann continued to praise and respect this noble composer's "romantic style."

Fascinating Pastime

When Louis Ferdinand took the field, he had the feeling that he would never again see his home: "You know how ardently I desire war [...]. Whatever may happen to me, I will be happy." He composed during every free minute remaining to him until the fateful Battle of Saalfeld on 10 October 1806. "Full of sentiment, full of tenderness, full of inspiration. This is music that today indisputably continues to fascinate" (BR).

Special Dedication

As a note in his own hand indicates, the prince completed the Andante with Variations in B flat major on 10 January 1806. He dedicated this piano quartet in Chopin's musical idiom to Baroness Jacobi-Kloest and had it published in Leipzig. The use of the double bass lends the Larghetto its special tone-color appeal. This op. 11 and the Quartet in E flat major op. 5 were written during the summer of 1806.

Prophetic Positioning

With their more than thirty recordings on MDG the cellist Michael Groß and his two chamber comrades in arms, the violinist Yamei Yu and the pianist Chia Chou, have shown that this Parnassian trio was prophetic in its seeking of a "namesite" in the vicinity of the Delphic oracle. The ensemble's second CD featuring Louis Ferdinand's piano trios was described as follows by musicweb-international: "The playing is dynamic and rich, expressive without being overly soloistic, superbly articulated and phrased, perfectly balanced." Awards such as Echo Klassik and most recently the Prize of the German Record Critics have marked the path of these chamber musicians – in every way outstanding and inspiring performing artists – up to the heights of Mount Parnassus.

**Prinz Louis Ferdinand von Preußen
Complete Piano Trios Vol. 1**

Trios opp. 2 + 10
MDG 303 1347-2

Complete Piano Trios Vol. 2

Trio op. 3, Piano Quartet op. 6
MDG 303 1361-2

Robert Schumann

Piano Quartet C minor (1829)
Piano Quartet op. 47
Trio Parnassus, Hariolf Schlichtig, viola
MDG 303 1414-2 (CD)
MDG 903 1414-6 (SACD)

