

Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy
1809-1847

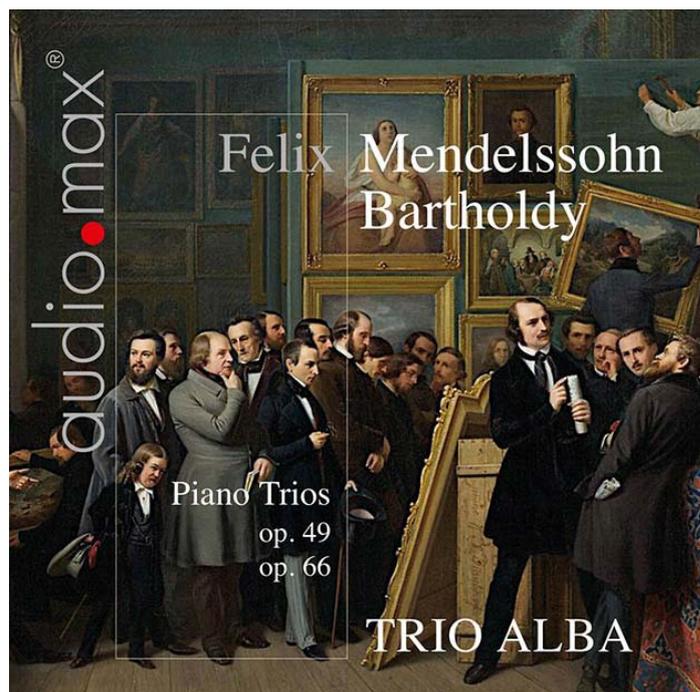
Piano Trio op. 49
Piano Trio op. 66

Trio Alba

1 Hybrid-SACD

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Chamber music instead of Carnegie Hall! It must have been a great creative urge indeed that compelled Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy to compose his second piano trio while turning down a conducting invitation to New York – and the result explains just what was at stake here. Beginning with a sweeping symphonic dimension in the first movement, the mighty work builds up to a finale in which quite significant questions are posed – and on this sparkling debut CD the Alba Trio offers refreshingly sophisticated answers to them.

with just the same euphoria

In 1845, when Mendelssohn was composing his *Elias*, he likewise occupied himself with religious themes in the last chamber composition authorized by him for publication. A free chorale recalling “Vor deinen Thron tret ich hiermit” comes in at the conclusion – a remarkable occurrence for a chamber composition and for Mendelssohn himself, who was not one to pretend to possess the ultimate truth in matters of faith. At the same time, however, this work is an expression of romantic seeking and yearning.

Mendelssohn’s first trio met with an enthusiastic response from the public and music critics and immediately won its place in the standard repertoire during the early years of private performance culture in the home. In a euphoric review Schumann termed Mendelssohn “the Mozart of the nineteenth century.”

And the Alba Trio goes to work. Full of youthful élan and virtuosic esprit, its young musicians magically bring a fresh Mendelssohn interpretation to the stage on a Super Audio CD with a captivating verve guaranteed to inspire enthusiasm in every way and on all sides.