

Mp3 Sinusquartett.com - Brahms Pianoquartets Op.25 & 60



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Music Details: The piano quartet in g minor was completed in the middle of the 1850s but was not published until 1863. It was premiered in Hungary with the Grn Quartet in 1867 featuring Brahms at the piano. It must have been much more accessible to the audience than was the c minor quartet, opus 60, premiered in Budapest twelve years later, once again with Brahms at the piano but this time with members of the Krancsevics Quartet. The work is overshadowed by dark clouds as the result of a painful period in Brahms life. Brahms is reputed to have harbored thoughts of suicide. The hopeless love affair with Clara Schumann plays an inspirational but also destructive role in this work filled with the opposing forces of creative energy and desperation. In this aura of chamber musical pro and con one can see and hear the unlikely opposition of the disagreeable sounding quite agreeable in a work that was made available for publication some 20 years after its inception. Regarding the specific history of the work it is worth citing the Hungarian musicologist Istvn Barna: "In 1856 Brahms showed the work to his friend Joachim in its original form, i.e. without the scherzo and in the key of c sharp minor. After hearing the work Joachim agreed with Brahms that the piece still needed to mature. At the same time, however, Clara Schumann entered in her diary that she liked the adagio movement. Brahms repeatedly altered the work in fundamental ways. He changed the key, inserted a scherzo between the first two movements and wrote a completely new finale.

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