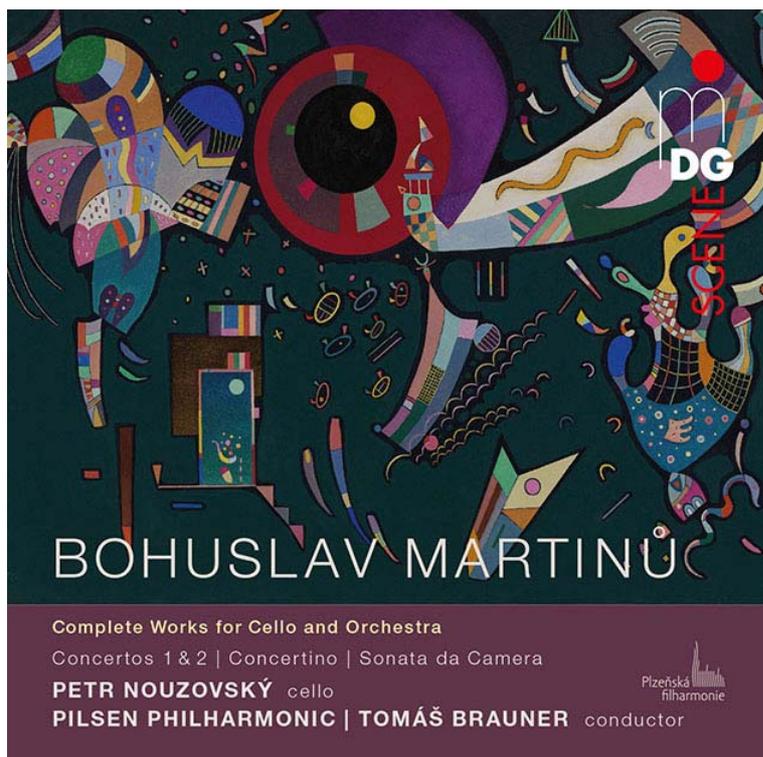


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11/17-(4)

Bohuslav Martinů (1890-1959)
Complete Works
for Cello and Orchestra

Petr Nouzovský, violoncello
Pilsen Philharmonic
Tomáš Brauner, cond.

2 CDs

MDG 601 2041-2

UPC-Code:



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Concerted Effort

Hard to believe but true: it is here for the first time that Bohuslav Martinů's concertante compositions for violoncello have been brought together on a double CD. Along with the two Cello Concertos, Petr Nouzovský and the Plzeň Philharmonic under Thomas Brauner also perform the Concertino and the Sonata da Camera – a richly colored portrait of this composer whose playful treatment of his musical creations continues to fascinate us even today.

Gourmet Taste

Deeply rooted in the Bohemian musical tradition, Martinů's compositions combine rhythmic sophistication, traditional folk motifs, and a classical understanding of form. His concertante works were inspired both by the Baroque concerto grosso and the romantic virtuoso concerto. And of course by Paris: French neoclassicism centering on Stravinsky and the Groupe des Six has left behind clear traces.

Globetrotting Times

Martinů had to leave his home-away-from-home for almost two decades when the Germans occupied France in 1940. He eventually made his way to America, where, unlike many other European exiles, he was able to establish himself with artistic and financial success.

And so even after World War II he continued to wander between the worlds, with teaching assignments in Tanglewood, Princeton, Rome, Nice, and Philadelphia.

Consummate Entertainer

From the early Concertino – Martinů's first concertante composition of all – to his second Cello Concerto, a work whose premiere the composer no longer lived to experience, Petr Nouzovský and the Plzeň Philharmonic cover an exciting spectrum depicting a rich and fulfilled artist's life. Here we encounter a lyrical and pastoral atmosphere as well as rhythmic vitality of dance character – a delightful composer's portrait of the highest entertainment value!