Bohuslav Martinů's seven numbered string quartets span a period from 1918 to 1947, and the three works on this recording give a good idea of the way in which the composer drew upon folk material from his Czechoslovakian homeland. The *Fourth* and *Fifth String Quartets*, composed in Paris in the years preceding the Second World War, exhibit an astringency of harmony and form allied with an increasing use of Czech and Moravian thematic material. In contrast the *Seventh Quartet*, composed in New York in 1947, tends in its style toward a greater classical simplification.

## Bohuslav MARTINU (1890-1959)

## **String Quartets Volume 3**

String Quartet No. 4	20.42
1 Allegro poco moderato	6:14
2 Allegretto scherzando	3:47
3 Adagio	6:15
4 Allegro	4:26
String Quartet No. 5	28:28
5 Allegro non troppo	6:11
6 Adagio	7:13
7 Allegro vivo	5:21
8 Lento – Allegro	9:43
String Quartet No. 7 "Concerto de Camera"	21:59
9 Poco allegro	7:16
10 Andante	8:14
11 Allegro vivo	6:29

## Martinů Quartet

Lubomír Havlák, Violin I • Petr Maceček, Violin II • Jan Jíša, Viola • Jitka Vlašánková, Cello

Recorded in the Martínek Studio, Prague, Czechoslovlakia, from 20th to 21st November and 16th to 17th December 1995 • Producer and Engineer: Václav Zamazal • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson Cover Painting: *The Church and Farm of Eragny*, 1895 by Camille Pissarro (1831-1903) (Bridgeman Art Library)

NAXOS

**DDD** 8.553784

Playing Time 71:09



Notice en français Made in E.C.

B & © 2002 HNH International Ltd.
Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch