

## NEW RELEASE INFORMATION FOR PRESS/MEDIA



<b>Artist(s):</b>	Wihan Quartet
<b>Composer:</b>	Franz Schubert
<b>Repertoire:</b>	String Quartets No 15 in G major D887 No.12 in C minor D703 "Quartettsatz"
<b>Catalogue No:</b>	NI6221 [0710357622120]
<b>Discs:</b>	CD1 Standard Case
<b>UK PPD (Trade Price):</b>	£8.70
<b>UK Release Date:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2013

Schubert started work on his 12<sup>th</sup> String Quartet in 1820, but never finished it – the only section completed was titled "Quartettsatz" when it was finally published in 1870, some forty years after the composer's death. The editorial board at the time (which included Brahms) declared the work as being comparable in value to that of the "Unfinished Symphony".

Quartet No. 15 was composed in 1826 and is one of only two large scale instrumental works Schubert wrote in the key of G major (the other being Piano Sonata D. 894 also from 1826). Schubert was involved as the viola player at the premiere of the first movement in 1828 – however the whole piece was not performed in entirety until the 1850's by the Hellmesberger Quartet.

These works are now considered to be integral parts of the quartet repertoire, and add to the impressive body of recordings built up by the Wihan Quartet. Their discs of Beethoven and Dvorak have all been enthusiastically received by critics all over the world.

Their Schubert cycle commenced in 2012 with the release of No's 14 and 13 (NI6189) was very highly acclaimed:

*"Exceptionally commanding performances"* International Record Review

*"There have been fine recordings of these two haunting quartets... , but none that I have enjoyed more than these beautiful performances, recorded at a concert in Prague last June".* Sunday Times

### **Artist Information**

LEOŠ CEPICKÝ & JAN SCHULMEISTER – violins JIRÍ ŽIGMUND - viola • ALEŠ KASPRÍK - cello

The Wihan Quartet, formed in 1985, are heirs to the great Czech musical tradition. The Quartet's outstanding reputation for the interpretation of its native Czech heritage and of the many classical,



romantic and modern masterpieces of the string quartet repertoire is widely acknowledged. They have developed an impressive international career, which includes visits to major festivals in Europe and the Far East. They visit the United States and Japan regularly and have had highly acclaimed tours of Australia and New Zealand. They are frequent visitors to the UK and can often be heard on BBC Radio 3 as well as in concert at many venues throughout the country.

The Wihan are Quartet in Residence at Trinity College of Music, London, and for several years have taught many of the UK's gifted young Quartets at Pro Corda in Suffolk. The Quartet are great supporters of the work of the CAVATINA Chamber Music Trust, giving inspirational concerts and master classes to young people in many parts of the country.

Further information can be found at [www.wihanquartet.co.uk](http://www.wihanquartet.co.uk)

For more details, and to request a review sample and/or an interview request, please contact John Cronin at Music & Media Consulting Limited.