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MDG  
SCENE



**George Onslow** (1784-1853)

String Quintet Op. 33 & Op. 74  
Piano Quintet Op. 79bis  
Piano Sextet Op. 30

Gianluca Luisi, piano  
Ensemble Concertant Frankfurt

Double – CD for the price of 1

**MDG 603 2117-2**

LC06768



### Now's the Time!

The Ensemble Concertant regularly celebrates great successes with its extraordinary instrumental forces. Since George Onslow alone dedicated dozens of works to the string quartet plus double bass, the ensemble has espoused the music of this Anglo-French composer with special interest. MDG is now presenting a special edition of two long sold-out CDs at an attractive price with works including the Piano Sextet, a concerto en miniature that took the Parisian salons by storm.

### In Turmoil

Onslow returned to Paris at the beginning of the nineteenth century, after the turmoil of the French Revolution had forced this scion of an old noble family to leave the country. Hamburg, London, and Vienna had been the stations of a restless phase during which he became acquainted with famous personalities of the time, including Jan Ladislav Dussek and Antonín Reicha, with whom he perfected his pianistic and compositional skills.

### On Track

Onslow composed the Piano Quintet op. 79bis during the middle years of the nineteenth century –

when he was at the height of his popularity – in the famous and just as rare “Trout Quintet” instrumentation with double bass. However, Onslow pursued a path different from that of Schubert; here the virtuosity of the piano with its leaps, arpeggios, scales, octaves, and other daring technical deeds lets the other instruments know who is the boss.

### Can't Get Enough!

The Quintets for String Quartet and Double Bass – so to speak, Onslow's specialty – reveal a master situated between classicism and romanticism. Marvelously sumptuous melodies in classical form breathe the romantic spirit but refrain from virtuosity for mere show. Instead, the works go straight to the heart and make it beat to the big sound supplied by the double bass and its profound foundation.

### also available:

**Frédéric Chopin** (1809-1849)

Piano Concertos No. 1 + 2  
(arr. for piano and string quintet)

Gianluca Luisi, piano  
Ensemble Concertant Frankfurt

**MDG 903 1632-6** (Hybrid-SACD)

