



Friedrich Kiel
(1821 - 1885)

**Complete Works for
violoncello and piano**

Sonata WoO
Kleine Suite op. 77
Sonata op. 67
Sonata op. 52
Drei Stücke op. 12
Reisebilder op. 11

**Hans Zentgraf, Violoncello
Christoph Ullrich, Piano**

Re-Release

MDG 612 2175-2 2 CDs



LC06768

Main Attraction

"My, this is attractive stuff!" This is what the *American Record Guide* wrote about the world premiere recording of Friedrich Kiel's complete works for violoncello. These interpretations by Hans Zentgraf and Christoph Ullrich disappeared from the catalogue long ago, but both CDs are now once again available, like a package with a pretty ribbon. The richly varied pieces by this Brahms contemporary, whom the *Berliner Nationalzeitung* numbered among the best of his times, sound as fresh as they did on the very first day.

Growing Talent

The young Kiel did not exactly grow up with music. It was not until he was fourteen that he received his first instruction in violin, after his talent had been discovered at the court of the noble Wittgenstein family. Prior to this time he had attempted to teach himself; his musical drive must have been unstoppable. And the same applies to his talent: only two years later he was hired as a violinist for the court orchestra, and his dazzling career would soon bring him triumphant successes in the Prussian capital.

Traveling Show

Along with three sonatas and a suite, Kiel also composed an extensive series of *Reisebilder*. These Romantic character pieces depict impressions from tours and travels: "On the Alp," "Inn Stop," "By the Waterfall" – even the titles make

us want to lace up our hiking boots – no matter that "Storm" comes with a forecast of rough weather.

Marvelous Interaction

Hans Zentgraf and Christoph Ullrich prove to be the ideal partners for Kiel's richly colored music. Trained at the renowned Juilliard School, Zentgraf knows how to tease out the finest nuances from his cello. The duo harmony generated by Zentgraf and Ullrich, who studied with the piano legend Leonard Hokanson and Rudolf Buchbinder, is only rarely encountered on concert stages.

also available:

Friedrich Kiel (1821-1885)
Complete Works for
Violoncello and Piano Vol. 2
MDG 612 1161-2

J.S. Bach: 6 Suites for Violoncello Solo
MDG 612 0554-2 (2 CDs)

Max Reger: Suites for Violoncello Solo op. 131c
MDG 612 0558-2