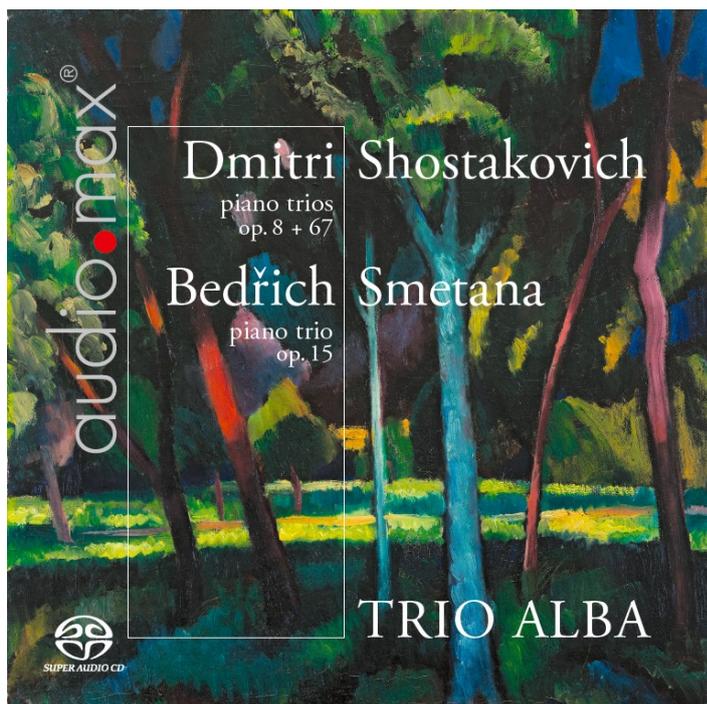


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**Dmitri Shostakovich**  
(1906 – 1975)

**Bedřich Smetana**  
(1824 – 1884)

Klavier Trios

**Trio Alba**  
Livia Sellin, violin  
Philipp Comploi, vc  
Chengcheng Zhao, piano

**MDG 903 2243-6**



**222**<sup>®</sup>  
RECORDING

### Prelude

Dmitri Shostakovich was only 17 years old when he completed his piano studies in Petrograd. In the same year he published his first piano trio, nonetheless already as Opus 8. The Trio Alba juxtaposes this youthful work with the Trio Op. 67 from 1944, and with Bedřich Smetana's Piano Trio Op. 15 expands the worthwhile view of the chamber music of the Slavic cultural region.

### Farewell

Smetana's music is Slavic: the Furiant, a lively Bohemian dance, characterises two of the three movements. The work has a sad background - Smetana's daughter died shortly before, only four years old. The trio is dedicated to her memory, lamenting phrases and groans express the pain. Wide soloistic passages convey the impression of great loneliness. And sonorous beauty.

### Share

Shostakovich's Trio op. 67 also commemorates a deceased person; the composer's deep consternation over the sudden death of a friend is expressed not only in a sensitive letter to the widow. Like a heart-rending lament, the strings play fortissimo con sordino shortly before the end - a fascinating sound effect that goes through marrow and bone.

### Nature

The Trio Alba is unreservedly engaged in the depths of these states of the soul. And also the rapturousness of a young love, which permeates Shostakovich's first trio, finds adequate expression with the three Austrians. Captured with great sympathy, this new recording - pressed onto the Hybrid SACD in the best super audio quality - convinces with its striking naturalness in imaging and reproduction.

### Also available from Trio Alba:

**Franz Schubert** (1797-1828)  
Piano Trios Es-Dur D 929 op. 100  
Adagio D 897 "Notturmo"  
**MDG 903 2013-6 (SACD)**

**Joseph Marx** (1882-1964)  
Trio-Phantasie, „Ballade“ für Klavierquartett  
Trio Alba / Wen Xiao Zheng, Viola  
**MDG 703 1844-2**

**Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy** (1809-1847)  
Piano Trios op. 49 + 66  
Trio Alba  
**MDG 903 1793-6**