

## NEW RELEASE



### Serenade no. 1 / Variations on a Theme by Haydn

The Hague Philharmonic (Residentie Orkest)

#### CLASSICAL

CC72692 - SACD

0608917269222

Challenge Classics

#### release dates:

Benelux: 06/05/2016

Germany: 06/05/2016

Other: 16/05/2016

#### Composers:

Johannes Brahms

#### Artists:

The Hague Philharmonic (Residentie Orkest)

#### Description:

In the nineteenth century, the old principality of Lippe-Detmold lay hidden away on the edge of the Teutoburg Forest. Johannes Brahms was offered a post at the court in 1857. It was an attractive offer – he would be paid a good salary simply for being present during the last three months of the year. In the beautiful natural surroundings of the castle at Detmold, Brahms' adult life actually commenced. Of central importance to his music was the rational order of the eighteenth century and the music of Haydn and Mozart in particular. He would often hear their serenades and divertimenti on court concerts, for which Brahms himself composed a serenade for nine instruments in the 'relaxed' atmosphere of the court. Encouraged by friends and colleagues, he then arranged the piece first for small, and later for full, orchestra, calling it his Serenade no. 1.

In today's world, one often perceives a division between art and academia, and composers and musicologists generally don't have much to say to one another. But that division has not always existed. Brahms himself was surrounded by a circle of academics who for him were also a source of animated comradeship. With some of them, Brahms would go on long walks outside Vienna and even on summer holidays. The men enjoyed long, and sometimes loud, discussions about their shared obsessions, discoveries and findings. Brahms had these very discussions to thank for his lifelong interest in 'early music'. He even collaborated intensively on the critical editions of Couperin, Handel and Bach's sons, and received interesting and useful advice from his friends. One such tip came from the Haydn's biographer Pohl, who recommended the very theme Brahms would later use in his Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn. The piece is a testament to Brahms's masterly counterpoint, the technique he and the Bach scholar Philipp Spitta had exchanged views on during their walks together, and on which the two had later corresponded.

#### USP:

- Jan Willem de Vriend's first recording after the news of his appointment as conductor of the The Hague Philharmonic / Residentie Orkest
- Jan Willem de Vriend approaches Brahms' orchestral output with two 'light' pieces
- Serenade no.1 and Haydn Variations are among the most 'classical' of Brahms's orchestral works
- this is the first installment in a series of discs de Vriend devotes to Brahms: next one will be the Deutsches Requiem

**Serenade no. 1 / Variations on a Theme by Haydn**

The Hague Philharmonic (Residentie Orkest)

**tracks:**

CD 1

1. Serenade no. 1 in D major op. 11 - Allegro molto (12:57)
2. Serenade no. 1 in D major op. 11 - Scherzo: Allegro non troppo – Trio: Poco più moto (07:54)
3. Serenade no. 1 in D major op. 11 - Adagio non troppo (11:25)
4. Serenade no. 1 in D major op. 11 - Menuetto I – Menuetto II (03:34)
5. Serenade no. 1 in D major op. 11 - Scherzo: Allegro-Trio (02:57)
6. Serenade no. 1 in D major op. 11 - Rondo: Allegro (06:29)
7. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Theme: St Anthony Chorale. Andante (02:02)
8. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 1: Poco più animato (Andante con moto) (01:20)
9. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 2: Più vivace (Vivace) (01:06)
10. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 3: Con moto (01:50)
11. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 4: Andante con moto (Andante) (01:42)
12. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 5: Vivace (Poco presto) (00:58)
13. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 6: Vivace (01:23)
14. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 7: Gracioso (02:37)
15. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Variation 8: Presto non troppo (Poco presto) (01:11)
16. Variations on a Theme by J. Haydn op. 56a - Finale. Andante (03:49)

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The Hague Philharmonic (Residentie Orkest)

## JOHANNES BRAHMS

Serenade no. 1 | Variations on a Theme by Haydn

**Residentie Orkest | The Hague Philharmonic**

**Jan Willem de Vriend** conductor

**JOHANNES BRAHMS** (1833-1897)

[1-6] **Serenade no. 1 in D major op. 11** (1857-1860)

[7-16] **Variations on a Theme by Joseph Haydn op. 56a** (1873)

total time 63:23

complete track information inside booklet



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