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FAURÉ

CHAMBER MUSIC, VOLUME 2

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String Quartet in E minor, Op. 121

- 1 I. Allegro Moderato (5:27)
- 2 II. Andante (9:10)
- 3 III. Allegro (8:44)

Guilet Quartet: Daniel Guilet, violin 1; Henry Siegl, violin 2; William Schoen, violar; David Soyfer, cello

Sonata No. 2 for Violin and Piano in E minor, Op. 108

- 4 I. Allegro non troppo (8:24)
- 5 II. Andante (7:52)
- 6 III. Allegro non troppo (6:06)

Daniel Guilet, violin; Gaby Casadesus, piano

Recorded late 1951 (?) early 1952 by Polymusic
First issued, 1952, in USA on Polymusic 1008
First issued, 1953, in UK by Nixa Record Company Ltd on QLP 4008
Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Peter Harrison, *aka/2/ha*
Additional XR remastering by Andrew Rose, Pristine Audio
Cover artwork based on a photograph of Gabriel Fauré

Total duration: 45:43 © 2008 Pristine Audio.

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FAURÉ

CHAMBER MUSIC VOL. 2
STRING QUARTET E MINOR
VIOLIN SONATA NO. 2 IN E MINOR
GUILLET QUARTET
GUILLET, CASADESUS

RECORDED IN 1951

disk 2 disc

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FAURÉ CHAMBER MUSIC - VOLUME TWO
GUILLET QUARTET, CASADESUS

PACM 060

CHAMBER MUSIC, VOLUME 2

STRING QUARTET IN E MINOR - VIOLIN SONATA NO. 2 IN E MINOR

Daniel Guilet (1899-1990) was a French, and later, American, classical violinist, best known for founding the Beaux Arts Trio.

He was born at Rostov, in the Russian Empire, January 10, 1899, and raised in Paris. His teachers at the Conservatoire de Paris included Georges Enesco and Guillaume Remy. He played in the Calvet String Quartet and as a soloist, and toured France with Maurice Ravel playing his accompaniments.

He immigrated in 1941, in his forties, to the U.S., and organized, the next year, a string quartet bearing his own surname. In 1944, he joined the NBC Symphony Orchestra, under conductor Arturo Toscanini; Guilet became concertmaster in 1951, and continued in that position in 1954 when Toscanini retired and the orchestra was renamed the Symphony of the Air.

Also in 1954, he invited cellist Bernard Greenhouse to join him and Menahem Pressler, with whom Guilet had previously made recordings, in playing informally -- supposedly, as Greenhouse put it 25 years later, just "to play some Mozart". As it turned out, they named their group the Beaux Arts Trio, and began playing in public at Tanglewood in 1955. The ensemble built an international reputation, and (at the time of his death 45 years later, and 30 after his retirement) the New York Times described it as still the "most prominent trio" in chamber music, anywhere.

Guilet retired from performing in 1969, after which he taught at Indiana University, the Manhattan School of Music, the Royal Conservatory of Music in Montreal, Oklahoma University and Baylor University. He died following a cerebral hemorrhage on October 14, 1990, at the age of 91.

Notes on the restoration: In Summer, 1953, the Nixa Record Company issued two LPs of Fauré's chamber music and this re-release has been sourced from an original pressing of one of those two discs (the other was issued as Volume One).

Copies of the discs are rare, so the restorer has to work from what he has. Like many such LPs, the pressing quality is indifferent and the disc itself badly worn in places (by the 8 gram 'lightweight' pickups of the time!) and with a huge amount of clicking and swishing which needed considerable work to minimise.

Some residue may still be heard on critical listening; but I think that the artistic performances justify the re-release and I'd urge anyone who isn't familiar with these musical by-ways to give them a try: they're pieces that are well worth getting to know. - PMH

NOTES FROM WIKIPEDIA - FULL NOTES ON THIS RECORDING CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.PRISTINECLASSICAL.COM

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