



PACM 068

THE FLONZALEY QUARTET

SMETANA: String Quartet in E Minor, "From My Life"

- 1 1st mvt. - Allegro viva appassionato (7:12)
- 2 2nd mvt. - Allegro moderato alla polka (4:33)
- 3 3rd mvt. - Largo sostenuto (8:22)
- 4 4th mvt. - Vivace (4:39)

Recorded 19th – 20th March, 1929 in Victor Studio No. 1, Camden
Matrix nos.: CVE 51035-4, 51036-6, 51037-4, 51038-6, 51039-4 and 51040-4
First issued on Victor 7130 through 7132 in album M 63

DOHNÁNYI: String Quartet No. 2 in D Flat, Op. 15

- 5 1st mvt. - Andante (8:14)
- 6 2nd mvt. - Presto acciacato (4:27)
- 7 3rd mvt. - Molto adagio animato (12:27)

Recorded 20th – 21st October, 1927 in Victor Studio No. 1, Camden
Matrix nos.: CVE 40702-1, 40703-2, 40704-6, 40705-3, 40706-4 and 40707-4
First issued on Victor 7354 through 7356 in album M 90

SPIRITUALS (arr. Alfred Pochon)

- 8 Go down, Moses; Swing low, sweet chariot (4:40)
- 9 Deep River (3:45)

Recorded 4th January, 1927 in Victor Studio No. 3, Camden
Matrix no.: BVE 31388-2
First issued on Victor 1276

POCHON: Irish Cradle Song (3:21)

Recorded 10th February, 1926 in the Victor Studios, Camden
Matrix no.: CVE 31384-10
First issued on Victor 6594

TRADITIONAL (arr. Alfred Pochon)

Irish Reel (2:30)

Recorded 4th January, 1927 in Victor Studio No. 3, Camden
Matrix no.: BVE 37400-5
First issued on Victor 1276

Sally in our alley (Old English tune) (3:34)

Recorded 3rd May, 1929 in Victor Studio No. 1, Camden
Matrix no.: BVE 51840-5
First issued on Victor 1569

Turkey in the straw (2:36)

Recorded 30th April, 1929 in Victor Studio No. 1, Camden
Matrix no.: BVE 51841-4
First issued on Victor 1569

The Flonzaley Quartet

Adolfo Betti, *Violin I*
Alfred Pochon, *Violin II*
Nicolas Moldavan, *Viola*
Iwan d'Archangeau, *Cello*

Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer:
Mark Obert-Thorn

Cover artwork based on a photograph of The Flonzaley Quartet c.1918.

Total duration: 70:20 ©2009 Pristine Audio.

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THE FLONZALEY QUARTET



SMETANA FROM MY LIFE
DOHNÁNYI QUARTET NO. 2
SPIRITUALS & TRADITIONAL FOLK MUSIC

RECORDED 1926-1929

PRISTINE
AUDIO

PRISTINE
AUDIO

THE FLONZALEY QUARTET

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO

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Adolfo Betti, Alfred Pochon,
Nicolas Moldavan, Iwan d'Archambeau

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DOHNANYI QUARTET No. 2

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SMETANA FROM MY LIFE
FLONZALEY QUARTET
DOHNANYI QUARTET No. 2

The Flonzaley Quartet made its first recording attempts in 1913 for Victor, but its earliest issued discs date from five years later. From that time until its disbandment in 1929, the Flonzaley was the première string quartet ensemble on the Victor/HMV family of labels. They recorded prolifically, with 32 acoustic and 92 electric sides published during the 78 rpm era, as well as another 11 sides that were first issued on LP or CD. Even those numbers pale in comparison to the 860 total matrices they recorded. Their quest for perfection is evidenced by the high take number (13) on the medley of two Spirituals presented here. The issued take came only after having recorded the work over eight sessions stretching over fourteen months.

In 1992 and 1994, the Biddulph label released two sets of two CDs each featuring most of the Flonzaley's electrical recordings, including some previously unpublished sides. In 2008, I transferred two more electrical sides of Christmas carols for A Very Pristine Christmas (Pristine Audio PAMX 005). The present release completes the digital reissue of all of the Flonzaley's published electrical recordings.

The sources for the transfers were pre-war Victor "Gold" label pressings for the Smetana; "Z" pressings for the Dohnányi; and Orthophonic pressings for the remainder (which, unfortunately, I've never seen available on any quieter shellac).

I am indebted to Jon Samuels for his discography of the Flonzaley Quartet, published in the ARSC Journal in 1987, for the details regarding dates, matrix numbers and recording venues.

Mark Obert-Thorn

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