Oliver Schnyder Trio
22. August um 17:18 ·

Thank you #RichardWhitehouse and #GramophoneMagazine for this thoughtful review of our Shostakovich recording.
We're grateful for the attentive listening and the finely nuanced words.

„From a lucidly restrained Prelude and a Fugue that conveys its innate pathos warily, this moves via a playfully un-sardonic Scherzo to an Intermezzo whose eloquence yields confiding intimacy, thence a finale where intimations of unease are caught up in its limpid course. Julia Fischer and Nils Mönkemeyer are effortlessly absorbed into a reading intent on rendering the musical content from an audible remove: if not aloof, then pointedly detached.
Just three months earlier, the Oliver Schnyder Trio favoured an appreciably different stance on the piano trios. Admittedly the Second Trio (1944) was written against a background of personal and cultural tragedy, but even this might not account for its intensity of approach – whether in an opening Moderato whose eruptive later stages head straight into a scherzo of uninhibited verve, or a Largo whose methodical progress is countered with the fantasia-like unfolding of a finale unremittingly graphic in evoking the denigration of the human spirit.
If this implies a tale of two halves, it is not to decry what are always assured interpretations well worthy of repeated hearings(...)A bridge of sorts is provided by the First Trio heard in as perceptive a recording as this youthful piece has received, its disjunct themes melded into a finely proportioned and cumulatively sustained single span. With its numerous photos, several unfamiliar, the CD packaging is unusually classy for these times."