

## Michael Haydn – Symphonies (1996)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 14 July 2010 10:51 - Last Updated Monday, 06 January 2014 20:07

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Symphony No. 16 in A Major, P. 6 1. *I. Allegro molto* 3:54 2. *II. Menuetto - Trio* 3:45 3. *III. Andante* 3:44 4. *IV. Finale: Allegro molto* 3:09 Symphony

No. 11 in B-Flat Major, P. 9

5. *I. Allegro assai* 3:59 6. *II. Andantino* 2:42 7. *III. Menuet - Trio* 3:29 8. *IV. Finale: Allegro molto* 4:03

Symphony in G Major, P. 16

9. *I. Allegro con spirito* 5:11 10. *II. Andante sostenuto* 5:56 11. *III. Finale: Allegro molto* 5:01

Symphony No. 34 in E-Flat Major, P. 26

12. *I. Allegro con brio* 3:10 13. *II. Adagietto* 2:43 14. *III. Finale - Fugato: Allegro* 3:14

Symphony No. 40 in F Major, P. 32

15. *I. Allegro molto* 5:59 16. *II. Adagio ma non troppo* 5:00 17. *III. Rondeau: Vivace* 4:23

London Mozart Players

Matthias Baumert – conductor

I have heard Harold Farberman conduct Michael Haydn, and good though he may be, I think Matthias Bamert is better. There is a wonderful combination of ease and detail in these readings. There never is a dull moment, and the playing is warm and ingratiating. The London Mozart Players is one of the few chamber orchestras with a distinctive sound, a splendid blend of 18th Century style and modern instrument savoir faire. As for the music, it is humane and charming. Michael Haydn may not have the inventiveness of his more famous brother, but he also avoids the tensions of Franz Joseph's Sturm und Drang period. A symphony like P 16, the one that was once attributed to Mozart, has richness and a splendid range, even if its themes are not as memorable as those of Michael's more celebrated contemporaries. I've collected a number of Chandos's Contemporaries of Mozart series, and this CD is unambiguously among the best of them. ---David Saemann, amazon.com

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