



AD NOVEM

un ensemble : neuf musiciens

Programme 2 - Beethoven and his musical heritage
Beethoven : Septet op.20 / Spohr : Nonet op.31

From chamber music to the symphony

Ludwig van Beethoven was hardly 30 years old when he composed his septet opus 20, dedicated to Empress Maria Theresia; at the same time, he was working on his first symphony. This work had a great success immediately. Before revealing his genius in his great symphonies, Beethoven showed imagination by writing a composition for a large chamber ensemble which sounds like a small symphonic orchestra.

Louis Spohr, a great admirer of Beethoven, was also about 30 in 1813, when he composed a nonet, at the request of a cloth merchant who was very fond of music; this nonet was to become a standard reference work in classical music.

Louis Spohr (1784-1859)

Grand Nonetto in F major, op.31, for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon, violin, viola, cello and double bass

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Septet in E flat major, op.20, for clarinet, horn, bassoon, violin, viola, violoncello, double-bass