

Ellemis piano quartet

Works by J. Brahms, E. Chausson



Subways Music presents a special edition. It is a 76-minute CD with works by **Johannes Brahms** and **Ernest Chausson**. The talent behind this magnificent set of performances is none other than the **ELLEMIS piano quartet**, consisting of **Stella Tsani** (violin) **Mikhail Smirnov** (viola) **Lefki Colovou** (cello) and **Elena Chounta** (piano).

It is possibly the only permanent chamber music ensemble in Greece with the particular instruments (violin, viola, cello, piano) and finding musical compositions for such a group of instruments can often be hard. This search led them to **Ernest Chausson** (1855-1899), an amazing but probably underrated French composer, whose «**Piano Quartet in La dur**», is a musical feast for the ears, uniquely combining French Romanticism and Post-Romanticism with an Impressionist feel.

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) needs no introduction. His prolific creativity has been recognised by all music lovers the world over. His «**Piano Quartet, opus 60**» is an absolute masterpiece, true to the nature of its composer and «**Ellemis**» perform it in an expressive way that also lets out their own special identity.

Stella Tsani, a distinguished member of the **Municipality of Athens Symphonic Orchestra** as well as the **ERT National Symphonic Orchestra**, is a renowned soloist with personal discography, active both in Greece and abroad. She has shown a special interest in modern scholarly music, as she has collaborated with the **Greek Composers' Union** and the **Greek Modern Music Ensemble**. **Elena Chounta** has given many recitals and has often appeared as a soloist with major Greek and international symphonic orchestras. She is a composer herself, and also teaches the piano. Award-winning violinist **Mikhail Smirnov**, a graduate of the **Tschaikhovski Academy of Moscow**, is a member of the **Athens State Orchestra** and has performed as a soloist in Greece and abroad. The cellist **Lefki Colovou** has worked with the most important Greek orchestras, collaborates with the **Greek Composers' Union** and has shown a special preference to chamber music, where she is particularly active.

Four inspiring individuals who charm us with their music, proving that Greece has a musical potential to meet any international standards, creating an album which not only receives public critical praise, but also enchants classical music lovers.