

APRIL - 2007

**ORIGINAL ROMANTIC MUSIC
FOR CELLO AND GUITAR**

LEONHARD VON CALL: *Serenade Op.84; Serenade Op.99.* JUSTUS JOHANN FRIEDRICH DOTZAUER: *Potpourri Op.21.* WENZESLAUS THOMAS MATIEGKA: *Potpourri en Forme de Serenade Op30.*

Michael Kevin Jones - cello.

Agustín Maruri - guitar

EMEC Records E-021

The late 18th- to early 19th-century composer Leonhard Von Call loved contrasts, on the evidence of his Op.84 *Serenade*: a growling cello bass followed by some sweet lyricism occurs several times in the seven movements of this fresh-sounding piece. The final Polonaise is a classic of its kind. Both serenades are in the same key, which makes for a certain monotony. The guitarist could almost record 40 minutes of um-cha-cha in C and go out to the pub.

Dotzauer was born around the same time as Call, but outlived him by 45 years. That gave him a chance to absorb the mature romanticism of later years, and it shows. He was a superior melodist in any case, as this *Potpourri* shows, with tunes that are very nearly memorable. He was a cellist and appreciated that instrument's capacity for melody.

Matiegka was proficient in both guitar and piano, and a considerable melodist. His Notturmo was good enough for Schubert to arrange for string quartet. His *Potpourri* begins with an Adagio-Rundtanz (round dance) of over nine minutes, but is well written and full of musical interest. The Polacca is of course another polonaise, so popular in Vienna around the beginning of the 19th century. The finale is a set of variations on *Là ci darem la mano*.

An agreeable CD, well played, well recorded and well presented.

Colin Cooper