

**Critics' Praise for Ensemble Schumann's Debut CD,
'Romantic Trios for Oboe, Viola and Piano',
[MSR CD-1423](#)**

"...exquisite music, exquisitely played, and exquisitely recorded..."
--Fanfare

"...stunning performances... amazingly radiant tonal qualities...outstanding..."
--Audiophile Audition

"...Here is a collection of ravishingly beautiful music, performed with ravishing beauty by three players calling themselves Ensemble Schumann... the oboe and viola complement each other beautifully, and in these performances Thomas Gallant and Steve Larson, in partnership with pianist Sally Pinkas, make some of the most blissful sounds this side of nirvana. Truly, this is exquisite music, exquisitely played, and exquisitely recorded, and it's definitely recommended to all..."

Jerry Dubins, Fanfare [July/August 2015]

[* * * *] "...Warm and invigorating performances of little known music that will delight on many levels... Though these works span a 150-year time period, their instrumentation and middle-register sonic qualities make them sound like close cousins indeed. ... The exquisite coloring and characterful rendering of these four small works makes the whole one of the jewels in his late crown... [The Loeffler is] a piece of rich nuances and brashly varied and haunting moods... Ensemble Schumann is perfection in these performances, granting us the opportunity to hear readings of exceptional warmth and fervent passion. Each member comes across as an exemplary virtuoso in his or her own right, and yet they play as if wedded for a half century... The stunning performances and amazingly radiant tonal qualities took me quite by surprise, and easily add to the glisten of these already coal-fired pieces. An outstanding issue!"

Steven Ritter, Audiophile Audition [June 2015]

[* * * *] "... [Tom] Gallant, Steve Larson and Sally Pinkas do perform very well together, and the lyricism, grace and rhythmic drive of Märchenerzählungen come through well... The oboe/viola/piano version [of the Kahn] serves the music well, bringing forth the contrasts within the parts..."

Mark J. Estren, InfoDad.com [May 2015]