

JIŘÍ BÁRTA RELEASES A COMPLETE OF BACH CELLO SUITES RECORDED ON A BAROQUE CELLO



Leading Czech cellist **JIŘÍ BÁRTA** has recorded a new 2-CD album containing the complete cello suites by **JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH**. Enriched with life and music experience he returns to repertoire which he recorded 23 years ago and which is the ultimate achievement for all important cellists. In the present recording, however, he presents a new interpretation. He plays all the suites on a baroque cello with gut strings and thus can come closer to the possible original sound; expressivity has been suppressed in favour of meditation and peacefulness. Barta approaches the set of compositions as a six-movement symphony. (*"I remember the time when I performed the suites for the first time years ago. It felt like an epiphany: the individual suites materialized for me in a definite shape as a symphony of six movements, as a story of life in six chapters, as a perfectly logical and thoroughly structured large*

composition.") He spent a long time studying the material (which he performs from the oldest available manuscript) and preparing the new interpretation. The recording has been made with great care and attention paid to the sound and has the aspiration to become the classical-music event of the season. The recording was made at the SONO Studio in collaboration with the sound engineer Pavel Karlík and recording supervisor Jiří Gemrot, and is released as part of the Animal Music 2018 Edition which has been kindly supported by the City of Prague. The author of the cover design is Jaromír Skácel of Najbrt Studio in collaboration with the world-renowned photographer Antonín Kratochvíl.



JIŘÍ BÁRTA (*1964) comes from a family where music was an everyday matter. Since he was little he has loved classical music, especially Dvořák's cello concerto. Since becoming the laureate of prestigious international competitions in Dresden and Los Angeles in the early 1990s, he has been recognized as one of the leading European cellists. Having completed his studies at the Prague Academy of Music, he studied in Koln with Boris Pergamenščikov. He has collaborated with the Czech and Slovak philharmonic orchestras, the Prague Symphony and the Berlin Philharmonic, as well as the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. He has given performances all over Europe, in North and South America and

Japan. He often performs chamber music and with various jazz formations, his recordings have made it to the top of prestigious music charts.