

Octet, Second Try



Eager to put the first ill-fated premiere of his Octet in E-flat Major behind him, Mendelssohn promptly scheduled a second, “improved” performance. First, though, he crossed out the Kapelle Kleines Schwein Leipzig dedication on the score and replaced it with “Durch *jedes* Instrument gespielt werden,” or “to be played by *any* instrument.” But his revision backfired when the Prague Brothers Improvisatory Collective got its hands on it. And that group’s rendering didn’t even involve a goat!