Written by bluesever Sunday, 26 September 2010 14:52 - Last Updated Friday, 07 February 2014 17:58

Francesco Mancini – Concerti Da Camera (2000)



1. Sonata No. 17 in A Minor: Allegro - Andante 2:53 2. Sonata No. 17 in A Minor: Spiritoso 2:05 3. Sonata No. 17 in A Minor: Largo 1:47 4. Sonata No. 17 in A Minor: Allegro 1:58 5. Sonata No. 10 in B-flat Major: Larghetto 3:41 6. Sonata No. 10 in B-flat Major: Allegro 2:27 7. Sonata No. 10 in B-flat Major: Largo 0:55 8. Sonata No. 10 in B-flat Major: Allegro 1:27 9. Sonata No. 20 in C Minor: Comodo 1:53 play 10. Sonata No. 20 in C Minor: Fuga - Allegro 3:18 11. Sonata No. 20 in C Minor: Lento 1:50 12. Sonata No. 20 in C Minor: Comodo 1:30 13. Concerto No. 2 in G Minor: Affetuoso - Presto 5:08 14. Concerto No. 2 in G Minor: Largo affetuoso 3:55 15. Concerto No. 2 in G Minor: Allegro affetuoso 2:45 16. Sonata No. 19 in E Minor: Allegrissimo - Larghetto 2:11 17. Sonata No. 19 in E Minor: Fuga 2:26 18. Sonata No. 19 in E Minor: Moderato 1:49 play

19. Sonata No. 19 in E Minor: Allegro 2:20 20. Sonata No. 6 in D Minor: Amoroso 2:53 21. Sonata No. 6 in D Minor: Allegro 2:54 22. Sonata No. 6 in D Minor: Largo 1:53 23. Sonata No. 6 in D Minor: Allegro 1:56 24. Sinfonia No. 1 in A Major: Grave - Presto 2:35 25. Sinfonia No. 1 in A Major: Adagio 0:39 26. Sinfonia No. 1 in A Major: Allegrissimo Presto 0:35 27. Sonata No. 14 in G Minor: Comodo 2:27 28. Sonata No. 14 in G Minor: Fuga - Allegro 2:33 29. Sonata No. 14 in G Minor: Larghetto 3:04 30. Sonata No. 14 in G Minor: Allegro 3:16

Musica Pacifica: Judith Linsenberg, recorder Elizabeth Blumenstock and Lisa Weiss, violins George Thomson, viola David Morris, 'cello John Schneiderman, archlute and baroque guitar Charles Sherman, harpsichord and organ

Orphan boys in 17th Century Naples enjoyed the possibility of a first-rate musical education at one of four charity institutions called "conservatorii." The boys earned their keep by performing for pay at religious services, the Church being still the great patron of music in Italy. Francesco Mancini (1672-1737) was such a musical orphan, who became the organist of his conservatory but who went on to serve as the assistant and eventual successor to Alessandro Scarlatti in the position of maestro di capella for the Austrian viceroy of Naples. The six concerto-sonatas by Mancini on this CD come from a 1725 joint publication with the great Scarlatti.

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Mancini's music, at least on this CD, is not the sort that requires deep emotional interpretation. It is pure entertainment, elegant athleticism in sound. Violinists Elizabeth Blumenstock and Lisa Weiss match Linsenberg's florid recorder note for note as naturally as if they'd played together at the same conservatory in Baroque Naples. A rich and sonorous continuo is provided by cellist David Morris, archlute John Schneiderman, and keyboardist Charles Sherman. Musica Pacifica is an ensemble well worth hearing, with several other CDs available, including music by Telemann and Alessandro Scarlatti.

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