

Pietro Antonio Locatelli - 6 Introduzioni Teatrali, op.4 (1993)

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Introduzione Teatrale No.1 in D major, Op. 4/1 *Introduzione Teatrale No.2 in F major, Op. 4/2* *Introduzione Teatrale No.3 in B flat major, Op. 4/3* *Introduzione Teatrale No.4 in G major, Op. 4/4* *Introduzione Teatrale No.5 in D major, Op. 4/5* *Introduzione Teatrale No.6 in C major, Op. 4/6* *Sonata for violin & continuo in D major, Op. 8/2* *Sonata for 2 violins (or flutes) & continuo in E minor, Op. 5/2* *Sonata for 2 violins & continuo in A major, Op. 8/10* Freiburg Baroque Orchestra Thomas Hengelbrock - conductor

Locatelli is, of course, an exceptionally tasty sheep's milk cheese related to Romano, but he was also a very important and talented composer of violin music. Later generations looked back at him as the "Baroque Paganini," and his music abounds in technical difficulties and flashy writing for the soloist. Of course, instrumental virtuosity alone doesn't make a great composer, but in this collection of concertos and orchestra suites we see that the challenge of writing other types of music didn't faze Locatelli composer one bit. The so-called "Theatrical Introductions" are what we now call "overtures" or "suites," consisting largely of dance movements arranged in a pleasing sequence. The whole collection is expertly performed by this excellent "authentic" instrument group. --David Hurwitz

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