

over 400 000 records sold all around the world. The last recording for the DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON, dedicated to a monograph by Morten Lauridsen, was released in September 2018. In June 2019 it received the OPUS CLASSIC AWARDS 2019, the most important prize for classical music in Germany. In 2018 I VIRTUOSI ITALIANI released a CD with the famous overtures from Rossini's operas devoted to the 150th anniversary of his death. In December 2021 the DIAPASON D'OR DE L'ANNEE 2021 was awarded to I VIRTUOSI ITALIANI, conducted by Corrado Rovaris, with the dynamic tenor duo of Lawrence Brownlee and Michael Spyres, for the CD WARNER CLASSICS - ERATO, entitled "AMICI & RIVALI", dedicated to Rossini. In this same repertoire, UNITEL CLASSICA has published DVDs with the performances of "Il Prigionier Superbo", "La Serva Padrona" and "La Salustia" by G.B. Pergolesi, conducted by Corrado Rovaris and "La Fuga in Maschera" by G. B. Spontini also conducted by Corrado Rovaris. However, the ensemble is also devoted to the greatest possible versatility and to the entertainment of the vastest possible audience, with a special attention to the youth; for this reason, it has also distinguished itself for its research in the experimental repertoire. Collaborations with artists such as Franco Battiato, Goran Bregovic, Uri Caine, Chick Corea, Paolo Fresu, Ludovico Einaudi, Michael Nyman, Cesare Picco, Enrico Rava, Antonella Ruggiero, Gianluigi Trovesi, Richard Galliano head in this direction.



Virtuoso Recital for bassoon and string trio

François Devienne • Franz Krommer • Carl Stamitz • Franz Ignaz Danzi

Paolo Carlini bassoon

I Virtuosi Italiani String Trio

Alberto Martini violin • Giuseppe Miglioli viola • Leonardo Sapere cello

F. Devienne - Quartet Op. 73 No. 2

01 I Allegro	08:15
02 II Adagio	03:49
03 III Grazioso con variazioni	06:30

F. Krommer - Quartet in B flat Op. 46 No. 1

04 I Allegro	07:53
05 II Andante	03:35
06 III Minuetto	04:04
07 IV Rondo	03:34

C. Stamitz - Quartet F Major Opus 19 No. 6

08 I Allegro	05:49
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CD 1 Total time: 43:34

C. Stamitz - Quartet F Major Opus 19 No. 6

01 III Romance	05:13
02 Rondo - Presto	03:55

F. Danzi - Quartet Op. 40 No. 3

03 I Allegro moderato	05:53
04 II Larghetto non troppo	03:56
05 III Menuetto - Allegro	03:28
06 IV Allegro	03:22

F. Devienne - Quartet Op. 73 No. 1

07 I Allegro spiritoso	10:23
08 II Adagio cantabile	02:49
09 III Rondo Allegro moderato	04:08

CD 2 Total time: 43:10

Live recording - Recorded on May 2, 3, and 4, 2025
at the Church of San Cresci in Valcalva, Borgo San Lorenzo (Florence)

Sound engineer **Simone Sciumbata**

Producer manager, Art Direction and Post-production **Rosella Clementi**

Publishing Supervisor **Romano Di Bari**

Artwork **Chiara Gimmelli**



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The works recorded in this album share several features, the most obvious being the ensemble (a comparatively rare combination of bassoon and string trio). However, a striking aspect they have in common is the fate of their composers. All of them were very well-known during their lifetime, and then fell into comparative oblivion. Their names once rivalled those of Haydn, Mozart, or Beethoven, but for more than a century after their deaths virtually nobody remembered their legacy. Only recently have their figures and works begun to be appreciated again as they deserve. This album includes two bassoon quartets by François Devienne, who was a poly-instrumentalist. One of his flute students, Guilou, maintained that he was almost unrivalled as a flutist, but even greater as a bassoonist. Devienne performed regularly in many prestigious ensembles, including a regimental band and a court chapel attached to Cardinal de Rohan, as well as in a Masonic orchestra and at the Théâtre de Monsieur in Paris. He was also a professor at the Conservatory of Paris, and contributed to the education of generations of musicians. His teaching method has been preserved in a treatise (1795) and his works for winds contributed highly to the popularization of wind instruments as solo protagonists of major works. His *Trois Quatuors pour Basson, Violon, Alto et Basse* op. 73 were composed just a few years after the treatise (1798) and dedicated to a certain Garnier from Lyon, who likely was François Joseph Garnier. Both Franz Danzi and Karl Stamitz were connected to the city, and to the orchestra, of Mannheim, a legendary ensemble whose principal performers were among the best soloists of their instruments in contemporaneous Europe. Mozart himself was highly inspired by his acquaintance with some of them, and was prompted by their virtuosity to write some of his solo concertos for wind instruments. Danzi joined the orchestra as a cellist, when he was only 15 years of age (which, in consideration of the orchestra's fame, is an exceptional testimony of his proficiency). Thanks to his cooperation with the other orchestra musicians, Danzi gained great expertise as concerns the typical features of the various instruments, and this allowed him to write for the bassoon in an exquisite fashion. In this Bassoon Quartet, Danzi masterfully combines the wind instrument with the strings, with occasional bouts of virtuosity and a generally elegant and refined style. Stamitz, in turn, was a member of the Mannheim orchestra, as a violinist who followed in his father's footsteps. His connection to Mannheim did not prevent him from travelling extensively and gaining wide knowledge of contemporaneous musicians and trends. Typical for his style are a refined and pronounced melodic vein, which translates into a rather idiomatic writing for the bassoon, an instrument he knew deeply. Franz Krommer, too, had a penchant for travelling: his professional life as a musician, conductor, composer, and pedagogue led him to accept jobs in several European regions. This rather nomadic profile translated into varying spellings of his name, mirroring the different traditions of the places where he dwelt. During his lifetime, he was

considered as a musician in the same rank as Beethoven, and his large output (more than 300 works) bore witness to the fecundity of his inspiration. Together, these works represent a living testimony of the possibilities of this unusual but fascinating ensemble, and a legacy of musical refinement definitely worth rediscovering.

Chiara Bertoglio

Special thanks to Professor Marilisa Cantini.

Thanks also to Father Luciano Marchetti and the Oblate Custodians Giuseppe and Giovanni.

Paolo Carlini, Ph. Barbara Laschi



Paolo Carlini After graduating with highest honours from the Ferrara Conservatory under the guidance of Vittorio Gavioli, he pursued advanced studies with Marco Costantini, Klaus Thunemann, and Milan Turkovic. Principal bassoon of the Orchestra della Toscana from 1987 to 2022, he has also performed in this role with the Orchestra of Teatro alla Scala di Milano, the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, and the orchestras of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Teatro Comunale di Bologna, and Filarmonica della Scala, under the baton of the most important conductors of our time: Claudio Abbado, Riccardo Muti, Zubin Metha, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Myung-Whun Chung, Daniel Harding, Daniele Gatti, Eliahu Inbal, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, and Daniel Oren. Numerous solo works by important contemporary composers, including Oscar winners Ennio Morricone and Luis Bacalov, have been dedicated to Paolo Carlini. He is credited with expanding and developing the solo bassoon repertoire over the past 30 years. In chamber music, he appears at major international festivals, collaborating with distinguished soloists including Julian Rachlin, Janine Jansen, Massimo Quarta, Gabriele Pieranunzi, Pavel Vernikov, Alain Meunier, Franco Petracchi, Bruno Canino, Alessandro Specchi, Pietro De Maria, Hansjörg Schellenberger, François Leleux, Christian Schmitt, Antony Pay, and Michel Lethiec. He has performed in leading international venues such as Carnegie Hall in New York, the Mozarteum in Salzburg, the KKL in Lucerne, the Auditorio Nacional in Madrid, the Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, the festivals of Ljubljana, Munich, and Nice, the Tokyo and Hong Kong Concert Halls, and the Izumi Concert Hall in Osaka. As a soloist, he has recorded for Sony Classical, CPO, Chandos, Naxos, Brilliant Classics, Stradivarius, Aulicus Classics, EMA Records, and Tactus. He is regularly invited to give masterclasses at New York University, the Ural Music College in Yekaterinburg, and the conservatories of Lyon, Geneva, Lausanne, Seville, Córdoba, Kazan, and Rostovon Don, as well as at the International Music Festival of Novo Hamburgo (Brazil) and the International Festival of Music in Iași (Romania). He is Professor of Bassoon at the "Pietro Mascagni" Conservatory in Livorno.

MUSICA IN MOVIMENTO - I VIRTUOSI ITALIANI

The orchestra of I Virtuosi Italiani, born in 1989, is one of the most active and qualified formations in the international music scene, regularly invited to the most important theaters, festivals and seasons all around the world. They are recognized with a particular aptitude for creating innovative projects, constant research in various languages, in addition to the excellent artistic quality demonstrated over years of activity. I Virtuosi Italiani have numerous collaborations with worldwide famous soloists and conductors. They collaborated on the staging of Stravinsky's *Apollon Musagete* with the New York City Ballet; in 2001 they performed all of Rossini's one-act operas for the Paris Opera Comique and held two concerts at the Konzerthaus in Vienna. I Virtuosi Italiani have performed in the most important theaters and for the main Italian musical institutions such as the Teatro alla Scala, the Teatro La Fenice, the National Academy of Santa Cecilia, the GOG of Genoa, the Unione Musicale of Turin, the 'University Institution of Concerts in presence of the Pope. Recently "ARTE CONCERT KLASSIK" recorded a live concert of I VIRTUOSI ITALIANI, with Wayne Marshall, soloist from the Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza, for the 1600th anniversary of the foundation of Venice. There are also numerous tours abroad, with concerts in the most prestigious musical Bordeaux), Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, England (London Royal Albert Hall), Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Finland, Slovenia (Ljubljana International Festival), Russia (St. Petersburg Philharmonic Hall, Moscow Great Hall of the Tchaikovsky Conservatory, Tchaikovsky Hall of the Philharmonic), Turkey, Iran, Korea, United States of America (New York, Los Angeles, Philadelphia), Baltic countries. venues: France (Festival Pablo Casals di Prades, Festival Berlioz, Aix-en-Provence, The discography of I Virtuosi Italiani includes more than 50 CDs for well-known recording houses and