

# MOZART | SCHUMANN

Piano quartet in G minor K478

Piano quartet in Eflat major op.47

## MOZART

*Piano quartet in G minor K478*

- |           |      |
|-----------|------|
| 1 Allegro | 7:47 |
| 2 Andante | 9:02 |
| 3 Rondò   | 4:51 |

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| 4 Sostenuto assai, allegro ma non troppo | 8:52 |
| 5 Scherzo: molto vivace                  | 3:38 |
| 6 Andante cantabile                      | 7:41 |
| 7 Finale: vivace                         | 7:59 |

TOTAL TIME: 52.45

Registered at Oratorio del Caravita in Rome - February 1999

Sound Engineer Piero Schiavoni

Production manager Rosella Clementi

Publishing supervisor Romano Di Bari

Cover Artwork Simone Malatesta



violin **G. PIERANUNZI** **R. FILIPPINI** cello

viola **F. FIORE** **A. KONTARSKY** piano

**Flipper srl Music Publishing** | Circonvallazione Clodia 15 | 00195 Roma

Phone +39063722138 +39063722209 | Fax +390637516970 | Email info@aulicusclassics.com | www.aulicusclassics.com



**MOZART - Piano quartet in G minor K478**  
**SCHUMANN - Piano quartet in E flat major op.47**

The contents of this CD is a live registration of a precious chamber music concert that took place on 11 february 1999 at the ancient oratory of Caravita for the glorious and prestigious chamber music society Gonfalone of Rome. For the event, the violinist Gabriele Pieranunzi, the violist Francesco Fiore (both from Rome), the swiss cellist Rocco Filippini and the german pianist Alfons Kontarsky (sadly deceased in 2010) met to play music together. The concert includes two of the most important masterpieces from the piano quartet repertoire; Mozart (Piano quartet K478 in G minor), 1785, and Schumann (Piano quartet op.47 in E flat major), 1843. The joy, enthusiasm and passion that these musicians shared, of different age, nationalities and cultural backgrounds but united in spirit is evident in the freshness of their interpretation of these master pieces from the chamber music repertoire. Gabriele Pieranunzi and Francesco Fiore, known from almost 40 years among the most interesting musical interpreters generation playing together since their adolescence, one of Italy's longest and intense musical partnerships.

Rocco Filippini, international renowned cello soloist since mid '60's playing many concerts regularly collaborating with them in Italy and abroad. They were often joined at the prestigious presence of the highly esteemed pianist Bruno Canino and the bassist Franco Petracchi. Eventually, the meeting between Gabriele Pieranunzi and german pianist Alfons Kontarsky; from a huge central european piano tradition, a historical recorder with the Deutsche Grammophone, especially a duo of four hands with his brother Aloys.

Age, experience and aesthetic differences, but the unifying strength within great music stronger than any divide, therefore, we believe that this registration of 30 years ago can testify the creative force in four musicians that collaborate together as among the highest of human gifts.

**FRANCESCO FIORE**

**GABRIELE PIERANUNZI**



**FRANCESCO FIORE**



**ROCCO FILIPPINI**



**ALFONS KONTARSKY**



## ALFONS KONTARSKY

### *Biography*

Alfons Kontarsky (1932 -2010) studied with famous Eduard Erdmann in Hamburg.

In 1955 he formed "Klavierduo Kontarsky" with his brother Aloys and they performed regularly from 1959 until 1983. In 1955 they won first prize for piano duo at the fourth German Radio International Music Competition in Munich. From 1962 he was instructor at the Darmstadt International Summer Courses for New Music.

Alfons was a member of the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts and of the Deutscher Musikrat (German Music Council, a member of the International Music Council) and held professorships at Music Universities in Cologne, Munich and the Salzburg Mozarteum.

As a piano duo, they gave first performances of works by Luciano Berio, Mauricio Kagel, Karlheinz Stockhausen and Bernd Alois Zimmermann.

Their recordings are numerous, and include Bartok's Sonata for Two pianos and percussion, Stockhausen's Mantra and Structures for two pianos by Pierre Boulez by Deutsche Grammophone label. Their more traditional fare includes the complete Brahms Hungarian Dances and Schubert's Fantasia in F minor.

## GABRIELE PIERANUNZI

### *Biography*

The Birmingham Post wrote: "Gabriele Pieranunzi, the sweetest-toned violinist you could imagine".

Between the numerous statements in international competition which characterised his entrance on the musical stage stands out the awards at a very prestigious international competitions like N. Paganini (Genoa, 1988 -1990), Tibor Varga (Sion), Ludwig Spohr (Freiburg).

He performed with important conductors like Jeffrey Tate, Vladimir Fedoseyev, Gianandrea Noseda, Yuri Bashmet and collaborated on the chamber music's field with Boris Belkin, Alfons Kontarsky, Nelson Goerner Rainer Kussmaul.

Invited many times by the Municipality of Genoa to play on the famous Guarneri del Gesù "Il Cannone" violin belonged to N. Paganini, is regular guest of the most leading concert halls like Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia of Rome, Accademia Chigiana of Siena, Festival dei Due Mondi of Spoleto, Herculeesaal of Munchen, Filarmonica G. Enescu of Bucarest, Wigmore Hall of London, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Malmoe Symphony Orchestra, Opera City Hall of Tokyo, Teatro Coliseum of Buenos Aires, Settimane Musicali of Stresa, Al Bustan Festival, Beirut.

He had recently recorded the Kurt Weill concerto for violin and winds under the baton of Sir Jeffrey Tate for label Concerto Classics and Mendelssohn Complete Piano Quartets for Decca – Universal label. He recorded for the Aulicus Classics Live series the concerto op.21 for violin, piano and string quartet by E. Chausson with the pianist Jin Ju and Philharmonia chamber players.

He plays on Ferdinando Gagliano violin ex Gioconda de Vito from 1762, gently offered by Pro Canale Onlus Foundation.



## ROCCO FILIPPINI

### *Biography*

Rocco Filippini (Lugano, 1943) began his musical training at an early age. Decisive importance was his meeting with Pierre Fournier who became his teacher at Geneva Conservatory. At the age of 23 he won the Geneva International Competition and embarked on his performing career. Rocco Filippini played in the main concert halls of Europe, North and South America, Australia and Japan.

In the 1968 with Bruno Canino and Cesare Ferraresi, he founded the Trio di Milano. He was a founder member in 1992 of the Quartetto Accardo.

He performed in many chamber music concerts with Maurizio Pollini; in Rome, London, Tokyo, New York, and in Salzburg Festival. In 1979 he was appointed as cello teacher at the G. Verdi Conservatory in Milan. In 2003 was invited by Luciano Berio to hold the chair of specialisation course at the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia in Rome. In 1985, together with Salvatore Accardo, Bruno Giuranna and Franco Petracch, he founded Accademia Walter Stauffer in Cremona.

## FRANCESCO FIORE

### *Biography*

Winner of many awards, he imposed himself as one of the most interesting musicians of his generation, as guest of the most important Italian and abroad associations and festivals: Accademia Nazionale di S. Cecilia, Società del Quartetto, Serate Musicali – Milano; Unione Musicale – Torino; Accademia Chigiana – Siena; Festival dei Due Mondi – Spoleto; Festival di Brescia e Bergamo; Settimane Musicali di Stresa; Musica Insieme – Bologna, Amici della Musica di Firenze, Teatro San Carlo of Naples, Teatro Coliseum of Buenos Aires and Festival of Cartagena, collaborating with very important musicians like Salvatore Accardo, Boris Belkin, Uto Ughi, Pierre Amoyal, Renata Scotto, Bruno Canino, Alfons Kontarsky, Alexander Madzar. Is member of Quartetto Accardo.

In February 2006 and in April 2007, the Italian music magazine Amadeus published the complete G. Faure piano quartets and the Brahms and Mozart clarinet quintet. For Decca-Universal label he recorded Mendelssohn piano quartets.

Actually teaches in Cremona Institute Monteverdi.

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