

ROTA | MARGOLA | CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO | ESPOSITO

Sonata in re • Tre studi da Concerto • Sonata Op. 128 • Tre momenti musicali (First world recording) • Allegro Danzante

BELTRAMINI PAOLO clarinet & AROSIO ROBERTO piano

N. Rota: *Sonata in re*

01. Allegro scorrevole 04:59

02. Andante, quasi adagio 04:51

03. Allegro scorrevole 04:07

F. Margola: *Tre studi da concerto*

04. Studio primo 02:10

05. Studio secondo 03:14

06. Studio terzo 00:53

M. Castelnuovo-Tedesco: *Sonata Op. 128*

07. Andante con moto 07:59

08. Scherzo 03:07

09. Lullaby 06:06

10. Rondò alla napoletana 04:16

E. Esposito: *Tre momenti musicali (First world recording)*

11. Inespressivo 04:28

12. Chiaroscuri 04:42

13. Sintesi 03:13

N. Rota: *Allegro Danzante*

14. Allegro danzante 03:27

Total Time: 57:32

Recordings by **Simone Sciumbata** in Abbey Rocchi Studios (Rome, December 2021)

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**ROTA
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ESPOSITO**

*Sonata in re • Tre studi da Concerto • Sonata Op. 128
Tre momenti musicali (First world recording) • Allegro Danzante*

BELTRAMINI PAOLO clarinet
AROSIO ROBERTO piano

The clarinet is one of the musical instruments closest to the human voice. Its capability to modulate its sound with intense expressivity conquered many of the greatest composers of all times, who dedicated some of their most unforgettable melodies to its mellow sound. This trait survived the political, historical and aesthetical turmoil of the twentieth century. The pieces recorded in this album bear witness to the fascination for the clarinet's cantabile even in the most tragical times (such as the year 1945) or in the midst of the avantgardes' deconstructionism. Nino Rota is best known as a composer of film music, and particularly for his cooperation with Federico Fellini. Film music allowed Ernesto to express his lyrical, playful, romantic, and ironic veins, free from the constraints of serialist diktats. His vocation for a communicative and narrative kind of music emerges in his Sonata (1945), where cantabile and sardonic elements are found, and in the merry and charming Allegro danzante, where repetition is turned into fanciful freedom. Similar to Rota, also Castelnuovo-Tedesco wrote many film scores, and, again like Rota, he spent a considerable part of his life in the States. Just as Rota's Sonata, also Castelnuovo-Tedesco's was written in the fateful year 1945: the composer, of Jewish descent, had been forced to leave Italy for America. In this piece, Neo-Classical and Neo-Romantic elements intertwine. Every one of the four movements is very characterized: the broad melodies of the opening movement, the Scherzo's lively rhythmic element, the Lullaby's contemplative traits and the folklike, enthralling Rondo alla Napolitana build up a long but continuously captivating Sonata.

Roberto Arosio - In 1990 he graduated in piano with honors at the G. Verdi Conservatory in Milan under the guidance of E. Esposito. From 1992 to 2000 he was part of the "O. Respighi" study group of the Fondazione Cini di Venice led by E. Bagnoli, with whom he perfected his studies. In 1990 he made his debut as a soloist at the Sala Verdi in Milan, performing the Concerto in G by M. Ravel, with the RAI National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by V. Delman; then, again in the Sala Verdi, he performed Beethoven's First Concerto and G. Gerswin's Rapsodie in Blue. He has held solo concerts and especially chamber music in: Italy, Switzerland, France, Germany, Spain, Poland, Portugal, Korea, Japan, Latin America, Mexico, United States, Canada and Egypt. He has won many international chamber music competitions including: First Prize at the Internal Competition of Chamber Music of Trapani and Special Prize for the Romantic Sonata, 2nd prize in Paris (FOEN), 2nd prize at the Trio Competition in Trieste and C.A.I. prize for best European Duo, Tina Moroni Prize at the "Vittorio Gui" Competition in Florence, New Careers CIDIM (ROME) and 2nd prize at the V. Bucchi in Rome. From 1992 to 1996 he was a member of the European Youth Orchestra (E.C.Y.O.). He has recorded for the Amadeus magazine, for Sax Record, Rivo Alto, Ediclass, Rainbow and Cristal and has made radio recordings for Rai (Rome), SSDRS Zurich, Radio France, RNE Madrid, Deutschland Radio Berlin, BBC London and Aulicus Classics. In 2005 he was awarded with the "Franco Gulli" International Chamber Music Prize by the Europe Music Association of Rome. He was the official pianist in the Guebwiller competition (France), Vittorio Veneto and at the International courses of the Accademia Chigiana held by Maestro B. Giuranna and at the Trumpet Academy in Bremen (Germany). He has held concerts with M. Ancillotti, B. Giuranna, M. Rizzi, P. Beltrami, I. Lima, G. Sommerhalder, R. Bobo, J. Alessy, P. Berman, Andrea Oliva, G. Meszaros and in various chamber music groups and contemporary music ensembles. He is the first accompanist in the Bassoon class of Gabor Meszaros and in the Singing class of Luisa Castellani at the Conservatory of Italian Switzerland in Lugano. He currently collaborates as a piano and celesta with the RAI National Symphony Orchestra, the Osi - Italian Switzerland Orchestra and the Accademy of S. Cecilia Orchestra in Rome.



Roberto Arosio

The horrors of World War II marked Franco Margola's life as well; the composer was interned in a German Lager towards the end of the war. His *Tre studi da concerto*, originally labelled *Tre pezzi*, were written in 1971 and premiered the following year by Luciano Antonioli and Bruno Canino. Contemporaneous critics appreciated the clarity of their language and the composer's boldness in resisting the sirens of experimentalism for experimentalism's sake. A similar refusal to submit to what a contemporary composer "had" to write characterizes the output of Ernesto Esposito as well. The youngest among the composers represented here, he taught for years at the Conservatory of Milan; the pianist of this album was among his students. If Castelnuovo-Tedesco had been close to Luigi Pirandello and cooperated with him, Esposito was in friendly terms with another Nobel Prize for literature, Salvatore Quasimodo, whose lyrics he set to music. His *Momenti musicali*, with their diverse atmospheres, demonstrate once more the flexibility of the clarinet and of its fascinating sound.

Chiara Bertoglio

Thanks to his talent and his love for knowledge, my father Ernesto created new ideas based on the history of music, in a life lived with dramatic intensity. The meloharmonic language starts from his signature: fifth and semitone. Two complementary semi-series confer stability and form the 'Chromatic Total'.

Chiara Esposito



Paolo Beltramini

Paolo Beltramini - Solo Clarinet of the Orchestra della Svizzera italiana (Lugano, Switzerland), is the only Italian clarinetist to have won the First Prize at the prestigious Prague Spring International Clarinet Competition (1996). In duo, together with the pianist Roberto Arosio, he was the winner of the International Chamber Music Competitions in Paris (1996) and Trapani (1997). The forementioned awards brought Beltramini to the attention of audiences and critics and helped establish his reputation as one of the most interesting wind-instrument virtuosos on the international concert circuit. A refined interpreter of the clarinet repertoire, he was a guest performer and teacher at some of the most prestigious concert institutions and halls of Europe, the United States, Asia, Africa and South America. As Principal Clarinetist he played with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Filarmonica della Scala, Orchestra Nazionale della RAI, Orchestra di Santa Cecilia Roma, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra da Camera di Mantova, Orchestra da Camera italiana etc., under the baton of conductors such as B. Haitink, G. Pretre, D. Harding L. Mazel, N. Jaervi, G. Sinopoli, M. Wung Chung, M. Janssons, A. Lombard, W. Delman, E. Inbal, D. Gatti, etc. Paolo Beltramini is regularly invited to be a part of international competition juries and has taught at International Master Classes in Italy, Usa, Japan, China, France, Switzerland, Slovenia and Portugal. His discography includes recordings for Brilliant Chandos, Ricordi, EMI, Fonit Cetra, Stradivarius, Rainbow, AS Disc, Continuo, RS and radio and television recordings and broadcasts for RAI, RSI (Switzerland), Radio France and Aulicus Classics. Paolo holds the post of Professor of Clarinet at the Luzern Hochschule fur Musik. Paolo is a "Ripa" "Silverstein" and "Legere" artist.