

## Arcangelo Corelli - Concerti Grossi Op. 6 (2003)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 22 October 2009 11:37 - Last Updated Saturday, 19 October 2013 15:23

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CD1 Concerto Grosso in F major, Op. 6, No. 2 (8:44) 1 I. *Vivace - Allegro - Adagio - Vivace - Allegro - Largo andante* 00:03:55 2 II. *Allegro* 00:01:28 3 III. *Grave - Andante largo* 00:01:28 4. *Allegro* 00:01:53

Concerto Grosso in D major, Op. 6, No. 4 (9:10)

5 I. *Adagio - Allegro* 00:03:27 6 II. *Adagio* 00:01:09 7 III. *Vivace* 00:01:17 8 IV. *Allegro* 00:03:17

Concerto Grosso in B flat major, Op. 6, No. 5 (9:54)

9 I. *Adagio - Allegro - Adagio* 00:03:28 10 II. *Adagio* 00:01:18 11 III. *Allegro - Adagio* 00:01:51 12 IV. *Largo - Allegro* 00:03:17

Concerto Grosso in C minor, Op. 6, No. 3 (10:48)

13 I. *Largo* 00:02:01 14 II. *Allegro - Adagio* 00:01:51 15 III. *Grave* 00:02:08 16 IV. *Vivace* 00:02:11 17 V. *Allegro* 00:02:37

Concerto Grosso in D major, Op. 6, No. 1 (11:40)

18 I. *Largo - Allegro - Largo - Allegro* 00:04:41 19 II. *Largo* 00:03:13 20 III. *Allegro* 00:01:54 21 IV. *Allegro* 00:01:52

Concerto Grosso in F major, Op. 6, No. 6 (11:33)

22 I. *Adagio* 00:00:59 23 II. *Allegro* 00:02:20 24 III. *Largo* 00:03:03 25 IV. *Vivace* 00:02:31 26 V. *Allegro* 00:02:40

CD2 Concerto Grosso in D Major, Op. 6, No. 7 (8:38)

1. I. *Vivace - Allegro* 00:01:37 2. II. *Adagio* 00:01:15 3. III. *Allegro* 00:02:00 4. IV. *Andante largo* 00:03:13 5. V. *Allegro* 00:01:04 6. VI. *Vivace* 00:01:13

Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op. 6, No. 8, "Christmas Concerto" (13:16)

7. I. *Vivace - Grave* 00:01:17 8. II. *Allegro* 00:02:03 9. III. *Adagio - Allegro - Adagio* 00:03:34 10. IV. *Vivace* 00:01:11 11. V. *Allegro* 00:02:05 12. VI. *Pastorale ad libitum: Largo* 00:04:19

Concerto Grosso in F Major, Op. 6, No. 9 (8:39)

13. I. *Preludio: Largo* 00:01:21 14. II. *Allemanda: Allegro* 00:02:30 15. III. *Corrente: Vivace* 00:01:29 16. IV. *Gavotta: Allegro* 00:00:47 17. V. *Adagio* 00:01:02 18. VI. *Minuetto: Vivace* 00:01:38

Concerto Grosso in C Major, Op. 6, No. 10 (9:29)

19. I. *Preludio: Andante largo* 00:02:03 20. II. *Allemanda: Allegro* 00:02:41 21. III. *Adagio* 00:01:00 22. IV. *Corrente: Vivace* 00:02:28 23. V. *Allegro* 00:02:31 24. VI. *Minuetto: Vivace* 00:01:48

Concerto Grosso in B-Flat Major, Op. 6, No. 11 (7:54)

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25. I. *Preludio: Andante largo* 00:01:57 26. II. *Allemanda: Allegro* 00:02:24 27. III. *Adagio* 00:00:52 28. IV. *Andante largo* 00:01:17 29. V. *Sarabanda: Largo* 00:01:11 30. VI. *Giga: Vivace* 00:01:21

Concerto Grosso in F Major, Op. 6, No. 12 (8:37)

31. I. *Preludio: Adagio* 00:02:19 32. II. *Allegro* 00:02:23 33. III. *Adagio* 00:02:17 34. IV. *Sarabanda: Vivace* 00:00:54 35. V. *Giga: Allegro* 00:02:41

Europa Galante (Ensemble) Fabio Biondi – violin, director

As usual Fabio Biondi and Europa Galante can be counted on for performances of great virtuosic flair and expressive warmth, rivalled by few ensembles active today. Their advocacy of Corelli's wonderful set of published Concerti Grossi cannot be praised highly enough.

Corelli was a composer who was reknown in his time for his virtuoso violin playing. Although he eventually lapsed into obscurity, his music was held in high regard right up till the early 19th century, when some scholars regarded his music to be superior to that of Handel. Stylistically he fits into the tradition of Concerto Grosso writing of movements that alternated in the slow-quick-slow-quick fashion that later gave way to the Venetian Concerto with its quick-slow-quick format. A Roman artist, it is interesting to note the great reserve, nobility and eloquence of the writing which demands comparison to his more colorful Venetian colleagues. Perhaps that even reflects a certain influence of Palestrina, for the reserved and eloquent lyricism with a relative avoidance of clashing dissonance certainly begs comparison. The result is music that compares favorably to Mozart in its angelic effortlessness, except garnished with an added touch of Italianate virtuosic flair, as well as some wonderful part writing.

Corelli is a composer who really should be played, heard and loved much more than he is. If you love to discover semi-obscure Baroque composer of extraordinary depth and profundity, you will find undiscovered riches here aplenty. For those already familiar with Corelli, the performances here could scarcely be bettered, and when presented in this sort of value for money package, it is a down right steal. Enthusiastically recommended! ---Sator, amazon.com

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