Arcangelo Corelli - Concerti Grossi Op. 6 (2003)

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

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 Farbio Biondi and Europa Galante can be counted on for performances of great virtuostic 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 virtuostic 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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