

NAXOS

PAISIELLO: Piano Concertos Nos. 2 and 4

8.557031

Giovanni Paisiello stands head and shoulders above the other Italian composers of his generation. A pupil of the Neapolitan School, he had a supreme gift for melody, allied with a highly individual style and idiom that foreshadow Haydn and Beethoven. Paisiello's eight keyboard concertos, written to commission for the nobility, clearly show that he must have been an excellent pianist and harpsichordist. In contrast with the classical poise and restraint of the *Second Concerto*, the *Fourth Concerto* is an extraordinary piece, with an opening *Allegro* comparable to Haydn's *Sturm und Drang* works, and a solemn slow movement that can only be likened to the young Beethoven.

Giovanni
PAISIELLO
(1741-1816)

1	Sinfonia d'Opera: Allegro vivace	4:59
	Piano Concerto No. 2 in F major	19:04
2	Allegro	6:31
3	Largo	6:50
4	Allegretto	5:43
	Overture in D major from the opera <i>Proserpine</i>	5:51
5	Allegro spiritoso	2:58
6	Andante	1:45
7	Allegro	1:09
	Piano Concerto No. 4 in G minor	24:41
8	Allegro	10:08
9	Largo	6:49
10	(Rondò): Allegretto	7:44

Francesco Nicolosi, Piano
Collegium Philarmonicum Chamber Orchestra
Gennaro Cappabianca

Recorded at the Court of the Royal Palace Theatre, Caserta, Italy, 25th-28th February 2003
Producer and Sponsor: Nunzio Areni, Artistic Director, Officine Creative Lyricon
Engineer: Paolo Rescigno • Booklet Notes: Paolo Isotta
Cover Image: *Capriccio with Roman Arch and Encampment on the Banks of a River*, c.1741/42
by Michele Marieschi (1710-1743) [AKG London / Photo: akg-images / Stuttgart, Staatsgalerie]

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Playing Time
54:35

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