

The Catalan composer Antonio Soler spent much of his life as a monk at the 16th century Spanish monastery, the Escorial. In addition to his monastic duties he was expected to train the choir, provide choral music for services and supply the Royal family with secular and instrumental music during their frequent visits. Although much of his day was taken up with prayer and the routine of the community, he found time to compose 150 varied and colourful keyboard sonatas, mostly written for the harpsichord. Highlights of this tenth volume include *Sonata No. 88 in D flat major*, one of Soler's more familiar and energetic works, and the *Sonata in D flat major* (without Rubio number), a lively work with its profusion of fresh ideas, surprising modulations, and dance-like syncopated rhythms.

**Padre Antonio  
SOLER**  
(1729-1783)

|    |  |      |
|----|--|------|
| 1  | <b>Sonata in D flat major (without Rubio number)</b> | 5:18 |
| 2  | <b>Sonata No. 88 in D flat major</b>                 | 5:00 |
| 3  | <b>Sonata No. 77 in F sharp minor</b>                | 8:04 |
| 4  | <b>Sonata No. 78 in F sharp minor</b>                | 5:46 |
| 5  | <b>Sonata No. 37 in D major</b>                      | 3:04 |
|    | <b>Sonata No. 64 in G major (1777)</b>               |      |
| 6  | <b>Pastorale: Allegretto</b>                         | 6:45 |
| 7  | <b>Allegretto grazioso</b>                           | 5:48 |
| 8  | <b>Intento a 4</b>                                   | 4:20 |
|    | <b>Sonata No. 126 in C minor</b>                     |      |
| 9  | <b>Andante</b>                                       | 7:28 |
| 10 | <b>Allegro</b>                                       | 4:19 |
|    | <b>Sonata No. 61 in C major (1782)</b>               |      |
| 11 | <b>Rondo: Allegro</b>                                | 4:15 |
| 12 | <b>Allegretto</b>                                    | 5:39 |
| 13 | <b>Minue di rivolti: Tempo Suo</b>                   | 2:14 |
| 14 | <b>Allegro</b>                                       | 5:38 |

**Gilbert Rowland, Harpsichord**

Recorded 10th to 12th July, 2002 in Epsom College Concert Hall, Surrey.  
 Producer and Engineer: John Taylor • Booklet Notes: Gilbert Rowland  
 Concert Flemish harpsichord from the Paris Workshop, prepared and tuned by Andrew Wooderson  
 Cover Picture: *Duchess of Alba, Maria Teresa Cayetana, his supposed mistress, 1795*  
 by Francisco de Lucientes Goya (1746-1828)  
 (The Art Archive / Private Collection / The Art Archive)



DDD

8.557137

Playing Time  
73:51



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