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Playing Time  
61:04

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Niccolò Paganini was music's first superstar. His career was attended by inflated concert prices, mass enthusiasm, even hysteria, all supported by a superb violin technique, a capacity for daring innovation and a genuine musical gift. Yet it is not widely known that Paganini was a guitarist too. The *Ghiribizzi* (whims or fancies), are sketches based on popular operatic tunes, displaying a unique charm and freshness. The guitar sonatas are small in scale but skilfully wrought, often recalling the music of the 18th century. An exception to this is the virtuosic *Grand Sonata* which, after an endearingly melodic *Romance*, concludes with a theme and six variations of ever-increasing technical difficulty.

Niccolò  
**PAGANINI**  
(1782-1840)

**Guitar Music**

- |  |              |                                 |              |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Grand Sonata in A major</b>               | <b>21:35</b> | <b>Sonata No. 30 in A major</b> |              |
| ① Allegro risoluto                           | 9:28         | ⑩ Minuetto – Allegro            | 3:11         |
| ② Romanze                                    | 3:56         | <b>Sonata No. 6 in F major</b>  |              |
| ③ Andantino variato                          | 8:12         | ⑪ Minuetto – Allegretto         | 4:15         |
| <b>Sonata No. 4 in D major</b>               |              | <b>Sonata No. 14 in F major</b> |              |
| ④ Minuetto – Rondoncino                      | 3:51         | ⑫ Minuetto – Valtz (Allegretto) | 5:09         |
| <b>Ghiribizzi</b>                            | <b>8:56</b>  | <b>Three Caprices</b>           |              |
| ⑤ No. 15: Allegro                            | 1:12         | (originally for solo violin)    | <b>14:06</b> |
| ⑥ No. 16: In cor più non mi sento: Larghetto | 2:15         | ⑬ Caprice No. 11                | 5:29         |
| ⑦ No. 37: Adagietto con espressione          | 1:41         | ⑭ Caprice No. 5                 | 3:15         |
| ⑧ No. 38: Vivace                             | 0:48         | ⑮ Caprice No. 24                | 5:21         |
| ⑨ No. 22: Larghetto                          | 3:00         |                                 |              |

**Marco Tamayo, Guitar**

Recorded at St John Chrysostom Church, Newmarket, Ontario, Canada, from 10th to 13th June, 2004

Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver • Engineer and Editor: Norbert Kraft

Booklet Notes: Colin Cooper

Cover Painting: *The Bay of Naples*, by Giacinto Gigante (1806-1876)  
(Private Collection/Bridgeman Art Library, London)