

La Stravaganza, Vol. 1

Andrew Watkinson, Violin

City of London Sinfonia • Nicholas Kraemer

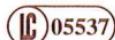
[1] - [3]	Concerto in B flat major, Op. 4, No. 1, RV383a	8:17
[4] - [6]	Concerto in E minor, Op. 4, No. 2, RV279	9:34
[7] - [9]	Concerto in G major, Op. 4, No. 3, RV301	7:06
[10] - [12]	Concerto in A minor, Op. 4, No. 4, RV357	7:45
[13] - [15]	Concerto in A major, Op. 4, No. 5, RV347	9:09
[16] - [18]	Concerto in G minor, Op. 4, No. 6, RV316a	9:02

The Composer

Known in his native Venice as The Red Priest on account of the colour of his hair, Antonio Vivaldi became the best known Italian composer of the 18th century. His vast output includes sacred works, operas and more than 500 concertos.

The Music

The cycle of four concertos, *The Four Seasons*, has taken Vivaldi's name into today's world of the 'pop' classics. The series of twelve concertos, known as *La Stravaganza*, was commissioned by a former pupil, Vettor Delfino, to demonstrate his musical virtuosity. Thrilling displays of violin pyrotechnics alternate with lyrical slow movements.

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Cover Painting: Venice from the Grand Canal Showing
 Ducal or Doge's Palace, Saint Mark's Square and
 Campanile by Francesco Guardi (1712-93)
 (Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon) (E.T. Archive, London)



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