

Giovanni Bottesini enjoyed a globe-trotting career as "the Paganini of the double bass". He was also a successful conductor and a composer, although only the music he wrote for his own instrument has outlived him. Many of the works on this recording emphasize the essential *bel canto* quality of Bottesini's inspiration, most explicitly in the dazzling Bellini *Fantasia*, but also in the duets with clarinet and soprano which demand virtuosity of both feeling and technique. The *Concerto No. 2* is a fully mature work, from the somewhat laconic first movement, through the simply singing second, to the third, driven by a rhythmic figure typical of the polonaise and the Cuban bolero.

Giovanni
BOTTESINI
(1821-1889)

Music for Double Bass and Piano • 2

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| Gran Duetto No. 3 ¹ | 11:58 | [7] Duetto for Clarinet and Double Bass ⁴ | 9:43 |
| [1] Andantino | 4:05 | | |
| [2] Presto | 7:53 | [8] Fantasia on Bellini's Beatrice di Tenda ⁵ | 11:00 |
| Concerto No. 2 ² | 14:22 | [9] Une bouche aimée ⁶ | 5:14 |
| [3] Moderato | 5:28 | [10] Tutto che il mondo serra: | |
| [4] Andante | 4:39 | Chopin Terzetto (tr. Chopin: | |
| [5] Finale: Allegro | 4:15 | Etude, Op. 25, No. 7) ⁷ | 4:47 |
| [6] Adagio melancolico ed appassionato ³ | 6:35 | [11] Meditazione: Aria di Bach ⁸ | 5:13 |



Joel Quarrington, Double Bass
Andrew Burashko, Piano ²⁻⁸

Harold Hall Robinson, Double Bass ¹

James Campbell, Clarinet ⁴

Monica Whicher, Soprano ^{6,7}



Sung texts and English translations included

The sung texts and translations can also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/557042.htm

Recorded at Grace Church on-the-Hill, Toronto, Canada, on 16th February, 2004 (tracks 1-2); at the Performing Arts Centre, The Country Day School, King City, Ontario, from 27th to 29th July, 2005 (tracks 3-8 and 11); and at Glenn Gould Studio, CBC, Toronto, on 3rd July, 2006 (tracks 9 and 10)

Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver • Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver
Editions used: I. Caïmmi (tracks 1 and 2); Pollard/Slatford (tracks 3-5); Quarrington (tracks 6-11)
Booklet notes: Jeffrey L. Stokes • Cover image: *The Raincloud* by Antonio Fontanesi (1818-1882)
(Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Florence, Italy / www.bridgeman.co.uk)

8.557042

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Playing Time
68:51



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