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Playing Time  
60:03Made in Germany  
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Booklet notes in English

François Couperin wrote some of France's greatest music in the classical style. The *Suites for Viola da gamba and Harpsichord* are late works, published in 1728, and are perfect examples of his richly expressive style which here draws upon Italian models as well as, perhaps, celebrating another genius of the French school, Marin Marais, who had died in the year the *Suites* were published. Intense and passionate, the suites offer lyricism and virtuosity, Italian bravura and French richness. The last of Couperin's harpsichord *ordres* (or suites) consists of four varied pieces, including *Les Chinois*, an early example of interest in China in Western music.

## François COUPERIN

(1668–1733)

### 1re Suite de viole en mi mineur

- |   |                         |      |
|---|-------------------------|------|
| 1 | Prélude                 | 4:31 |
| 2 | Allemande légère        | 2:42 |
| 3 | Courante                | 2:00 |
| 4 | Sarabande grave         | 4:37 |
| 5 | Gavotte                 | 2:45 |
| 6 | Gigue                   | 2:15 |
| 7 | Passacaille ou Chaconne | 5:58 |

### 2e Suite de viole en la majeur

- |   |                    |              |
|---|--------------------|--------------|
| 8   | Prélude            | 2:50         |
| 9   | Fuguète            | 2:21         |
| 10  | Pompe funèbre      | 8:12         |
| 11  | La Chemise-blanche | 4:24         |
| <b>27e Ordre de clavecin<br/>en si mineur</b> |                    | <b>17:12</b> |
| 12  | L'Exquise          | 4:05         |
| 13  | Les Pavots         | 6:45         |
| 14  | Les Chinois        | 3:16         |
| 15  | Saillie            | 3:05         |

### Mikko Perkola, Viola da gamba<sup>1–11</sup> Aapo Häkkinen, Harpsichord

Recorded at St Catherine's Church, Karjaa, Finland, 16–18 May 2011

Producer, Engineer & Editor: Mikko Murtoniemi • Booklet notes: Keith Anderson  
Viola da gamba by Guy Harrison (Toronto, 1998) after Michel Colichon (Paris, 1691)

Harpsichord by Keith Hill (Manchester, MI, 2008) after Pascal Taskin (Paris, 1769)

a' = 396 Hz, tempérament ordinaire

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