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DDD

Playing Time
66:16

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Alfano's chamber music is receiving deserved recognition. The *Violin Sonata* is a powerful and impressive work, with elements of French impressionism, but essentially post-romantic in ethos. The *Piano Quintet* was Alfano's last chamber work, premiered in 1946, and a compelling example of his belief in resilient lyricism, as well as a rejection of contemporary atonal music. It teems with imaginative touches, colours and rhythms. The previous release in this series of the *Cello Sonata* and *Concerto for Violin, Cello and Piano* (8.570928) was praised for its "razor-edged accuracy, passion, and insight." (*Fanfare*). Alfano's opera *Cyrano de Bergerac*, with Plácido Domingo in the title rôle, is available on Naxos DVD 2.110270 and Blu-ray NBD 0005.

Franco ALFANO

(1875-1954)

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| | Sonata in D for Violin and Piano (1923) * | 31:31 |
| | World première recording of the original 1923 version | |
| 1 | I. Mosso | 14:03 |
| 2 | II. Lento, un po' a capriccio | 9:43 |
| 3 | III. Lento sostenuto | 7:45 |
| | Piano Quintet in A flat major (1945) ‡ | 27:58 |
| | World première recording | |
| 4 | I. Largo | 12:45 |
| 5 | II. Moderato con grazia | 7:44 |
| 6 | III. Allegro | 7:29 |
| | Nenia and Scherzino for Violin and Piano (1936) * | |
| | (arr. Enrico Pierangeli) World première recording | 6:47 |
| 7 | Nenia | 4:24 |
| 8 | Scherzino | 2:23 |

Elmira Darvarova, Violin*‡ • Scott Dunn, Piano*‡
Mary Ann Mumm, Violin‡ • Craig Mumm, Viola‡ • Samuel Magill, Cello‡

Recorded at the Edith Memorial Chapel, The Lawrenceville School, Lawrenceville, New Jersey, USA
 on 22nd and 23rd February 2011 • Executive producer: Elmira Darvarova

Co-producers: Elmira Darvarova and John Baker • Engineer and Editor: John Baker

Cover photograph of Alfano (ca 1943) from the Konrad Dryden Collection • Booklet notes: Konrad Dryden

Publishers: Universal Music Publishing Classical-Casa Ricordi, Milan (tracks 1-3 and 7-8),

Edizioni Suvini-Zerboni, Milan (4-6)