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8.660319-21

Playing Time
3:26:51

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Booklet notes and synopsis in English
Made in Germany

Little is known about the life of Francisco António de Almeida, but he occupied a central position in Portuguese life in the first half of the 18th century and was able to learn the Italian style in Rome thanks to the ambitions of King João V. The rarely recorded *La Spinalba ovvero Il vecchio matto* (Spinalba, or the Mad Old Man) is a comic opera which follows the *buffa* tradition of intrigue and romantic complexities, and is filled with superb *cantabile* arias as well as a rich variety of original and dramatic orchestral effects. The cast is led by Ana Quintans, a much-in-demand soloist on the early music scene, and the highly regarded Portuguese ensemble Os Músicos do Tejo is directed by its co-founder Marcos Magalhães.

GOVERNO DE
PORTUGALSECRETÁRIO DE ESTADO
DA CULTURA

Francisco António
DE ALMEIDA
(c.1702-c.1755)

dgARTES DIRECÇÃO-GERAL
DAS ARTES

La Spinalba ovvero Il vecchio matto

Drama comico in Three Acts • Libretto by an unknown author



Câmara Municipal

lisboa

FIRST COMPLETE RECORDING
ON PERIOD INSTRUMENTS

School of Economics
and Management
TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF LISBON
SINCE 1911



Arsenio, a merchant, Spinalba's father Luís Rodrigues, Bass
Dianora, Spinalba's step-mother Cátia Moreso, Mezzo-soprano
Spinalba Ana Quintans, Soprano
Ippolito, Spinalba's faithless lover Fernando Guimarães, Tenor
Elisa, Arsenio's niece Inês Madeira, Mezzo-soprano
Vespina, a servant Joana Seara, Soprano
Leandro, Elisa's lover Mário Alves, Tenor
Togno, a servant João Fernandes, Bass

Os Músicos do Tejo (on period instruments)

Harpsichord: Marta Araújo (orchestra) and Marcos Magalhães (recitatives)

Marcos Magalhães

CD 1	CD 2	CD 3
1-27 Act I	65:00 1-23 Act II	66:08 1-21 Act III
		75:43

Recorded at Salão Nobre of the Instituto Superior
de Economia e Gestão, Lisbon, Portugal, 15th-23rd November 2011

Producer: Pierre Lavoix • Production Manager: Marta Araújo • Engineer and Editor: Jean Gauthier

Booklet Notes: Marcos Magalhães • Cover collage: Paolo Zeccara

Performing edition by Pierre Salzmann (Portugaliae Musica, Volume XII, 1969 – Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian)

The Italian libretto may be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660319.htm