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ANTONIO VIVALDI

Concerto for Two Lutes and String Orchestra in G Major, F. V, No. 2

Concerto for Guitar and String Orchestra in D Major, F. XII, No. 15

Concerto for Diverse Instruments and String Orchestra in C Major, F. XII, No. 23

Concerto for Two Oboes, Two Clarinets and String Orchestra in C Major, F. XII, No. 2

Karl SCHEIT, Lute and Guitar Christa GRUENMAYER, 2nd Lute - Rudolf KALUP, Solo Violin Alfred DUTKA, 1st Oboe - Ernst KRALL, 2nd Oboe Rolf EICHLER, 1st Clarinet - Adolf SCHOEBINGER, 2nd Clarinet Hilde LANGFORT, Harpsichord - Theodor GUSCHLBAUER, Harpsichord

THE AUSTRIAN TONKUENSTLER ORCHESTRA OF VIENNA Edgar SEIPENBUSCH, Conductor

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ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

Side 1: 22:00

Concerto for Two Lutes and String Orchestra in G Major, F. V. No. 2 (2.133)

- 1. Allegro 4:45
- 2. Andante 2:57
- 3. Allegro 4:11

Concerto for Guitar and String Orchestra in D Major, F. XII, No. 15 (P.209)

- 1. Allegro giusto 3:35
- 2. Largo 3:45
- 3. Allegro 2:22

Side 2: 20:57

Concerto for Diverse Instruments and String Orchestra in C Major, F. XII, No. 23 (P.87) (For 2 flutes, oboe, English horn, 2 trumpets, 2 violas, violin and 2 harpsichords)

- 1. Allegro 3:58
- 2. Largo a piacimento 1:47
- 3. Allegro 3:30

Concerto for Two Oboes, Two Clarinets and String Orchestra in C Major, F. XII, No. 2 (P.74)

- 1. Larghetto Allegro 4:30
- 2. Largo 1:51
- 3. Allegro 4:56

Karl SCHEIT, 1st lute and guitar

Christa GRUENMAYER, 2nd lute - Rudolf KALUP, solo violin
Helmut RIESSBERGER, 1st flute - Johann FUTSCHIK, 2nd flute
Alfred DUTKA, 1st oboe - Ernst KRALL, English horn and 2nd oboe
Josef SPINDLER, 1st trumpet - Matthias IDINGER, 2nd trumpet

Theodor GUSCHLBAUER and Hilde LANGFORT, harpsichords

THE AUSTRIAN TONKUENSTLER ORCHESTRA OF VIENNA

Edgar SEIPENBUSCH, conductor

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741) is as many have observed perhaps the greatest of the Venetian composers. While a good part of his works have come to life again in recent years the totality of his greatness has not been completely explored and can therefore in this moment not be appreciated completely. One thing is clear: he is the master of the concerto for one instrument or several instruments or simply the orchestral style of the concerto grosso.

Four concertos are represented here, selected mainly because of their unorthodox use of instruments. Most interesting is the concerto in C-major F. XII, no. 23. In it a string orchestra supports in the first movement the following concertante instruments: two flutes, one oboe, an instrument which in the manuscript is identified as a "Salmoe", possibly a wind instrument of the type of the German Schalmey, a forerunner of the oboe and performed in this recording by an English horn; furthermore two violetti ing-

lesi which in all liklihood were the soprano variety of violas and are performed here by two violas. There is also a solo violin supported by two additional solo violins and finally two harpsichords, which play the concertante part in mutual imitation. The second movement the solo violin and the two harpsichords concertize without the support of the orchestra. In the third movement a curious addition takes place in that the concertizing instruments are complemented by two high trumpets.

A further curiosity is the concerto F XII, no. 2. Here the concertizing instruments are a pair each of oboes and clarinets which play alone in the second movement. According to a report in 1730 the clarinet was invented at the beginning of the eighteenth century and only slowly has it come into use since musicians of that time such as Mattheson speak in rather rejecting terms of the instrument. Nevertheless there are at least three concerti by Vivaldi

which includes them and it is no exaggeration to say that this concerto is perhaps one of the earliest known works with the clarinet used as virtuoso instrument.

The concerto F V, no. 2 is marked for two mandolins and string orchestra. It is performed here by two lutes according to the principle outlined below.

The concerto F XII, no. 15 has also been considered a concerto for lute and orchestra, however with terms of lute, guitar and mandolin being mutually interchangeable in that time the chordal appogiaturas in the first and third movement make it seem more likely that the guitar would be the more suitable instrument.

Florian GRASSMAYR

Produced especially for THE MUSICAL HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC. by Dr. Kurt LIST, Musical Director

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