

Italian guitarist and composer Luigi Legnani performed widely throughout Europe and was admired by Paganini as the guitar's "leading player" of his day. Legnani's virtuosity was eminently suited to the 19th century fashion for transcribing and writing variations on famous opera themes that range from the romance of *L'Italiana in Algeri* to the drama of *Armida*. The 'orchestral' colours of the guitar are fully explored with breathtaking special techniques and imitative effects.

## Luigi LEGNANI

(1790–1877)

### Rossini Variations

- |     |   |      |     |   |       |
|-----|---|------|-----|---|-------|
| ①–② | Rossini – <i>L'Italiana in Algeri</i> :<br>Gran Sinfonia, Op. 2   | 8:33 | ⑫–⑰ | Variations on <i>O quante lagrime</i><br>from Rossini's <i>La donna del</i><br><i>lago</i> , Op. 18             | 7:03  |
| ③–④ | Rossini – Guillaume Tell:<br>Overture, Op. 202 (excerpts)   | 7:40 | ⑳–㉘ | Introduction and Variations<br>on <i>Sorte Secondami</i> from<br>Rossini's <i>Zelmira</i> , Op. 21              | 11:43 |
| ⑤–⑥ | Rossini – <i>L'Italiana in Algeri</i> ,<br>Act I: Duetto: <i>Ai capricci della</i><br><i>sorte</i> , Op. 5  | 6:08 | ㉙–㉚ | Variations on <i>La mia spada</i> ,<br><i>e la più fida</i> from Rossini's<br><i>La donna del Lago</i> , Op. 24 | 9:31  |
| ⑦–⑧ | Rossini – <i>L'Italiana in Algeri</i> ,<br>Act I: Cavatina: <i>Languir per</i><br><i>una bella</i> , Op. 7  | 4:36 | ㉛–㉜ | Variations on <i>Non più mesta</i><br><i>accanto al fuoco</i> from Rossini's<br><i>La Cenerentola</i> , Op. 30  | 7:36  |
| ⑨–⑪ | Rossini – <i>L'Italiana in Algeri</i> ,<br>Act II: Coro e rondo: <i>Pensa alla</i><br><i>patria</i> , Op. 8 | 5:47 | ㉝–㉞ | Variations on <i>Cara, per te</i><br><i>quest'anima</i> from Rossini's<br><i>Armida</i>                         | 10:30 |

Full track details will be found in the booklet

③–⑤ WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDINGS

Marcello Fantoni, Guitar

Recorded at the Chiesetta dell'Oratorio, Oleggio, Novara, Italy, 24–25 August 2016, courtesy of the Museo Civico Archeologico Etnografico "C.G.Franchini"

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8.573721

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Playing Time  
79:34



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