

Cecilia Bartoli, *mezzo-soprano*

Sergio Ciomei, *piano*

Sunday, February 15, 3 pm, 2004  
Zellerbach Hall

PROGRAM

I

Gioacchino Rossini Beltà crudele  
Vincenzo Bellini Malinconia, ninfa gentile  
Gaetano Donizetti La conocchia  
Rossini L'esule  
Donizetti Me voglio fa 'na casa

II

Rossini La Grande Coquette  
Bellini Ma rendi pur contento  
Rossini L'Orpheline du Tyrol  
Rossini Canzonetta spagnola

III

Rossini Nacqui all'affanno e al pianto  
(from *La Cenerentola*)

INTERMISSION

IV

Pauline Viardot Havanaise  
Viardot Hai Luli  
Léo Delibes Les filles de Cadix

V

Georges Bizet La coccinelle  
Bizet Tarantelle  
Bizet Adieux de l'Hôtesse arabe  
Hector Berlioz Zaïde

VI

Rossini Riedi al soglio (from *Zelmira*)

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Decca/Simon Fowler

**Cecilia Bartoli** (*mezzo-soprano*) was born in Rome, and received her voice training at the Conservatorio di Santa Cecilia while at the same time being taught and coached by her parents, Silvana Bazzoni and Angelo Bartoli, both professional singers.

Bartoli's early career included collaborations with Herbert von Karajan, Daniel Barenboim, and Nikolaus Harnoncourt. She has since worked with a host of other acclaimed conductors, including Claudio Abbado, Pierre Boulez, Riccardo Chailly, William Christie, Myung-Whun Chung, Charles Dutoit, Carlo Maria Giulini, Christopher Hogwood, James Levine, Zubin Mehta, Marc Minkovski, Riccardo Muti, Sir Simon Rattle, Giuseppe Sinopoli, Sir Georg Solti, and Franz Welser-Möst.

In Cecilia Bartoli's opera career, she has been heard to date in numerous Mozart operas (*Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *Così fan tutte*) in all of the most distinguished opera houses around the world. She has achieved equal renown in operas by Rossini (*La Cenerentola*, *Turco in Italia*), Paisiello (*Nina*), Handel (*Rinaldo*, *Il trionfo del tempo*), and Haydn (*Armida*, *L'anima del filosofo*), among others.

Since the beginning of her career, Bartoli has been an enormously successful concert artist. In her recital appearances, she has been accompanied by leading pianists such as Daniel Barenboim, Myung-Whun Chung, James Levine, Andrés Schiff, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet. Besides arias of Mozart, Rossini, and Puccini, her concert repertoire also comprises German lieder and songs and arias by Bizet, Viardot, Berlioz, and Ravel.

Perhaps her greatest commitment belongs to early music, which she has brought to the public's attention repeatedly with enormous enthusiasm. Her performances of compositions

by Scarlatti, Paisiello, Caldara, Caccini, Vivaldi, Gluck—if only to name some—have helped create a new audience for this repertoire throughout the world. This increasing interest in early music led to Bartoli's collaboration with such outstanding period instrument orchestras as The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Concentus Musicus Wien, Il Giardino Armonico, Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin, The Academy of Ancient Music, Les Arts Florissants, The Freiburger Barockorchester, and Le Musiche Nove.

Cecilia Bartoli's discography comprises more than 10 complete opera recordings, from Mozart and Rossini to Handel and Haydn, as well as numerous solo discs. With her award-winning *Vivaldi Album*, which was released in the autumn of 1999, the artist enjoyed an astounding success and awakened a new interest on an international level in the previously completely unknown operas of Antonio Vivaldi. The *Gluck Album*, released the subsequent year, won the Grammy Award for Best Classical Vocal Performance within a few months of its release. Acclaimed by critics internationally, this CD topped numerous Best-of-the-Year lists. In summer 2002, Cecilia Bartoli renewed her exclusive contract

with the Decca Music Group, which will provide for a continuation of this legendary discography.

Her most recent disc, the *Salieri Album*, was launched in the fall of 2003. Typical of the thoughtfulness with which Cecilia Bartoli chooses her recording projects, this exploration of Italian arias by the famously misunderstood Antonio Salieri was recorded with The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, conducted by Adam Fischer.



**Sergio Ciomei** (*piano*) was born in Genoa in 1965. He studied piano with Franco Trabucco, graduating with full marks of distinction in 1984. He then took part in master classes held by Muriel Chemin, Piero Rattalino, and Andrés Schiff. The winner of

numerous piano competitions, in 1991 he gained important international recognition by winning second prize in the Mozart Competition of the Salzburg Mozarteum. Alongside his activities as a pianist, Ciomei studied harpsichord with Christophe Rousset and Jan Willem Jansen, and fortepiano with Andreas Staler and Laura Alvin. From 1989 to 1994, he was assistant maestro to Frans

Brüggen and Kees Boeke at the Italian Baroque music courses of the Accademia Chigiana, Siena.

Ciomei has a busy concert schedule all around the world, as a soloist of both piano and harpsichord, and as a member of the ensembles Europa Galante and Tripla Concordia. He has appeared in concerts conducted by Frans Brüggen, Fabio Bondi, David del Pino Klinge, and Jean-Jaques Kantorow, and he has been invited to appear in important musical venues such as the Berlin Philharmonie, the Auditorium Nacional in Madrid, the Théâtre de Champs Élysées in Paris, and the Teatro Universidad in Santiago, Chile.

Sergio Ciomei has made recordings with various international labels. Many of his recordings with the ensembles Tripla Concordia and Europa Galante have been awarded prizes by the most prestigious European magazines. Recently his recording of Mozart sonatas for fortepiano and violin with Fabrizio Cipriani won a prize from the Japanese *Ontomo Guide to the Best Chamber Music*, being described as "one of the finest Mozart recordings of all time."

Sergio Ciomei began collaborating with Cecilia Bartoli in 2001. He often plays in duo with the great Italian singer, and they have appeared in such important venues as the Théâtre de Champs Élysées, Paris, and the International Festival of Bad Kissingen.

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