



CHANNEL CLASSICS

CCS 14298

KATONA

TWINS

Scarlatti & Handel



Peter & Zoltán Katona | guitars
Liwei Qin | cello



D. Scarlatti (1685-1757)

1	Sonata in E minor/orig. C minor	Allegro K 115	5.15						
2	Sonata in E minor/orig. C minor	Allegro K 116	3.57						
3	Sonata in C minor	Andante e cantabile K 481*	3.10						
4	Toccatina in D minor	Allegro K 141/L422	3.38						

G.F. Händel (1685-1759)

5	Chaconne in G major, HWV 435 **		10.13						
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Trio sonata Op. 2, No. 5 in D minor/Orig. G minor

Liwei Qin | cello

6	Larghetto		2.12						
7	Allegro		2.45						
8	Adagio		1.48						
9	Allegro		3.13						

Suite in A minor/orig. D minor, HWV 428

10	Prelude		1.07						
11	Allegro (Fugue)		2.14						
12	Allemande		3.48						
13	Courante		1.34						
14	Air (with 5 variations)		4.40						
15	Presto		4.25						

D. Scarlatti

16	Sonata in G major/orig. D major	Allegro K 491	5.44						
17	Sonata in G major	Presto 427	2.20						
	Total time:		62.56						

Guitars: Nicolaus Wolff, 1995

Cello: Vincenzo Panormo c. 1791 belonging to Ralph Kirshbaum

All pieces arranged by Peter and Zoltán Katona except:

* arranged by J. Bittermann

** arranged by Frankfurt Guitar Duo/Katona Twins

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C & P 1999

Production & Distribution

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our releases can be found

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All Channel Classics

productions are recorded and

edited in the digital domain.

Made in Germany

Identical twins **Peter and Zoltán Katona** were born in 1968 in Budapest, Hungary. They studied at the Béla Bartók Conservatoire of Music in Budapest, at the Academy of Music in Kassel, at the Academy of Music in Frankfurt am Main in Germany, and the Royal Academy of Music in London.

Recognitions for the twins has come from numerous awards:

- 1993 first prize International guitar duo competition in Montelimar France
- 1993 first prize International guitar duo competition in Bubenreuth Germany
- 1993 Cultural Prize from the city of Kassel Germany
- 1995 S.T. Johnson Foundation Prize London
- 1996 Laura Ashley Foundation Prize London
- 1996 Prize - winner at the Park Lane Group Competition for Contemporary Music in London
- 1996 Finalist Concert Artist Guild Competition New York
- 1997 First prize Young Concert Artist Competition
- 1999 Winner of the Concert Artists Guild Competition New York



photo: Hanva Chhala



Liwei Qin, cello

Born in Shanghai in 1976
Liwei moved to Australia in
1989 where he studied with
Nelson Cooke at Melbourne
University. In 1995 he took
up a scholarship to study
with Ralph Kirshbaum at
the Royal Northern College
of Music. During his studies
Liwei won numerous prizes
including the Australian
*Broadcasting Corporation's
Young Performer of the Year*
in 1993 and in 1997 1st prize
in the Adam International
Cello Competition, a special
distinction in the
Rostropovich International

Cello Competition and the Gold Medal in the Royal Over-Seas League
Competition. In June 1998 he won the Silver Medal in the 11th Tchaikovsky
International Competition held in Moscow. Liwei was selected for representa-
tion by the Young Concert Artists Trust, London in 1997 and is currently
'Scholar in Residence' at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester.

Beside the fact that **Georg Friedrich Händel and Domenico Scarlatti** were born in the same year, there are many connections between the two composers. Händel spent the years between 1706 and 1710 in Italy, studying the great traditions of Italian Opera and was particularly influenced by the work of Alessandro Scarlatti. During this time he met with Domenico Scarlatti, the son of Alessandro, and the two composers competed in a friendly musical duel arranged by the wealthy patron, Ottoboni. The composers demonstrated equal expertise in the cembalo but everyone, including Scarlatti, agreed that Händel was a superior organist.

The works recorded on this compact disc were composed originally for the harpsichord, an instrument that looks similar to a piano but whose sound quality is closer to the intimate timbre of the guitar due to the same plucking action of the strings. This was a principal reason for making these transcriptions.

Scarlatti spent most of his life working in the Courts of Portugal and Spain, most importantly in the service of Maria Barbara who became the wife of King Ferdinand VI. With her Scarlatti formed a lifelong musical symbiosis that resulted in the creation of his most significant work, a body of more than 500 single-movement 'sonatas'. Many of his works composed for his patron show a direct influence of Spanish Guitar music. An excellent example of this is found in the Toccata in D minor with its rapid single note repetitions, a technique often employed in music for his instrument.

Transcribing music for a variety of instrumental combinations was a common practice during the Baroque period. Much of Händel's harpsichord music can be found in various forms in his chamber music, in his orchestral works and in his operas. The Air with five variations and the final Presto of Händel's Third Suite, originally composed for harpsichord is also part of the overture to *Il Pastor fido*, the Concerto Grosso, Op. 3, no. 6 (with its elaborate organ) and

the Op. 7, no. 4 Organ Concerto. The Prelude of the same Suite is a perfect written example of Händel's improvisational skills.

The Trio-sonata Op.2, no. 5 is in the form of a 'sonata da chiesa' and was originally composed for two violins with continuo. In our transcription the guitars take over the violin parts and also the accompaniment of the harpsichord. The Chaconne in G Major was probably written for the son of the British ambassador, resident in Hamburg, Cyril Which. The symmetrically constructed theme (4+4 bars) is followed by 21 variations, which Händel groups in the French manner: variations 1 to 8 are in G Major, 9 to 16 are in G minor, and the last five variations in G Major.

Peter and Zoltán Katona, translation David Shapero

COLOPHON

Production

Producer, recording engineer, editing

Cover photo

Cover design

Liner notes

Technical information

Microphones

Digital converter

Speakersystems

Recording location

Recording dates

Channel Classics Records by

C. Jared Sacks

Hanya Chlala

David Louf, Utrecht

Peter and Zoltán Katona

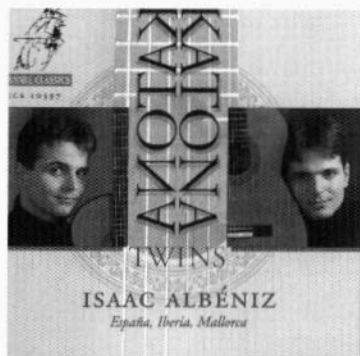
Bruel & Kjaer 4003

24 Bit Prism / Genex Recorder

Audiolab & AKG K1000 Headphones

Doopsgezinde Kerk, Renswoude, The Netherlands

May/August 1999



discography:

CCS 10397 Isaac Albéniz

España, Iberia, Mallorca