



Pianoforte Italiano

PARADISI: *Toccata*; **SCARLATTI:** *Sonatas*; **GOLINELLI:** *Cicalata*; **FUMAGALLI:** *La Roche du Diable*; **RESPIGHI:** *2 Ancient Airs & Dances*; **MALIPIERO:** *Preludi Autunnali 1-4*; **PILATI:** *Bagatelles 1+2*; **DALLAPICCOLA:** *Sonatina Canonica sui Capricci di Paganini*; **SONZOGNO:** *Favoletta*

Adalberto Maria Riva—Gallo 1456 — 62 minutes

Riva is a fantastic pianist, though listeners may find some of the pieces on this program hit or miss. Alongside the more familiar Scarlatti sonatas are many hidden gems in this recording of works by representative Italian composers from the 18th to the 20th Century. The opening *Toccata*, by Paradisi, is delivered with plenty of energy and rhythmic verve. Riva's interpretation of Scarlatti leans towards the romantic; he uses rubato, but it sounds tasteful and appropriate. Golinelli's 'Cicalata' is a virtuosic little work. Fumagalli's 'Roche du Diable' pales in comparison to romantic contemporaries Chopin and Schumann. Dallapiccola's *Sonatina Canonica* is a delicate piece with interesting counterpoint and dramatic contrasts. Riva navigates these works effectively, able to bring rather ordinary sounding music, like the Respighi dances, to its full potential.

In the liner notes Riva acknowledges the lack of works by two major Italian composers, who for "space reasons" do not appear in this recording: Clementi and Martucci. But he nevertheless does a good job of displaying both the familiar and unfamiliar in this lively program.

KANG