







Anne Akiko Meyers regularly performs as guest soloist with the world's mos prestigious orchestras, in recital, on television and radio. The Vivaldi album is he 29th recording and fourth release for eOne Music.

Ms. Meyers has performed around the world since her professional debut in 1986. Career highlights include multiple appearances on The Tonight Show, a solo performance for 750,000 people celebrating Sydney's Bicentennial, and an appearance on MSNBC's "Countdown" which was named the third most popular segment of the year. Meyers has been featured in print and television commercials including a fashion campaign that was photographed by Annie Leibovitz. Michael Arad's winning design for The World Trade Center Memorial, which was selected from 5,201 entrants from 63 nations, featured Anne's recording of Somei Satoh's "Bird's in Warped Time II".

A champion of living composers, Meyers has commissioned and premiered works by David Baker, Mason Bates, Jakub Ciupinski, John Corigliano, Jennifer Higdon, Wynton Marsalis, Akira Miyoshi, Arvo Pärt, Gene Pritsker, Somei Satoh, and Joseph Schwantner. Anne co-commissioned the Mason Bates violin concerto with the Pittsburgh Symphony and premiered the work in Pittsburgh with Leonard Slatkin. She recently recorded the Bates concerto with the London Symphony Orchestra for an upcoming eOne release which will also include the Barber Violin Concerto and the world premiere of "Lullaby for Natalie", a piece written by John Corigliano for the birth of Meyers's first daughter.

Anne was born in San Diego, California and grew up in Southern California. She studied with Alice and Eleonore Schoenfeld at the Colburn School of Performing Arts, Josef Gingold at Indiana University, and Felix Galimir, Masao Kawasaki and Dorothy DeLay at the Juilliard School. She is an Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient and a member of the Young Concert Artists Advisory Board.

Ms. Meyers was recently awarded lifetime use of the 1741 'Vieuxtemps' Guarneri del Gesu, considered by many to be one of the finest violins ever made.

NOTES of THANKS and DEEP GRATITUDE

Susan Napodano DelGiorno, Silas Brown, Phil Rowlands, Steve Wehmhoff, Pauline Gilbertson,

English Chamber Orchestra, eOne Records

David Lockington, Kristjan Jarvi, Peter Von Weinhardt, Adrian Muller, Benoit Rolland, Isaac Salchow

Paolo Alberghini, Julie Yeboah-Reed, Steven Smith & Beares, Ian Stoutzker

Rebecca Davis PR, Jaime Morton Campbell, Vanessa Brićeno-Scherzer, Marcella Neudert, Josep Molina

My Family and the Brilliant 2nd and 3rd Violinists in the Vivaldi Triple Concerto

Giuseppe Guarneri Del Gesu, Arvo Pärt, Antonio Lucio Vivald

Recorded August 2-4, 2013, at Henry Wood Hall, London Produced by Susan Napodano DelGiorno | Engineered by Phil Rowlands

Additional recording done September 6, 2013 at the Performing Arts Center,

Produced by Susan Napodano DelGiorno Mixed and mastered by Silas Brown Engineered by Silas Brown

Photography by Molina Visuals Creative Direction: Paul Grosso Art Direction & Design: Sean Marlowe



Γhe year 1741 saw the death of Antonio Vivaldi and the birth of the 'Vieuxtemps Guarneri del Gesù, a violin considered by many to be one of the finest in existence Γhis instrument is making its commercial recording debut in this album.

Vivaldi and del Gesù lived most of their lives in Northern Italy (Venice and Cremona, respectively) and are today considered among the greatest masters of their crafts. However, both men died poor and their genius went unnoticed for many years. Guarneri's work began to be recognized after Paganini began performing on his violins around the turn of the 19th century, and Vivaldi's works, while popular during his lifetime, virtually disappeared until the early 20th century.

The 'Vieuxtemps' del Gesù has led an incredible life. Its near-perfect condition and unrivaled craftsmanship likely account for its legendary sound. It gets its name from its most famous previous owner, Henri Vieuxtemps, who, after Niccolò Paganini's death, was considered by many to be the finest violinist of his era. A picture from Vieuxtemps' funeral shows most of Belgium lining the streets to pay their respects. Vieuxtemps was so in love with this violin that his pupil, Eugène Ysaÿe, carried it on a pillow behind his casket. Ysaÿe wanted to own this violin but it was out of reach financially. Later he acquired another del Gesù as a result of his brother's marriage to one of his pupils. Talk about some dowry!

Antonio Vivaldi was considered to be one of the great violin virtuosos of his era, though he worked much of his life as a priest and composer at an exclusive orphanage. The orphans were often abandoned girls from wealthy men who had rysts and adulterous affairs in Venice. It was with this all-female group of highly trained musicians that most of his music was performed with Vivaldi leading as soloist.

Vivaldi composed 500 concertos, 22 surviving operas (Vivaldi mentioned he had written 94), sacred choral works and 40 cantatas. Around 1725, he wrote a group of 12 concertos that were entitled, The Contest Between Harmony and Invention, Op.8. This opus includes a group of concertos with names such as Sea Storm, Pleasure, the Hunt and the Four Seasons. Sonnets, most likely penned by Vivaldi, accompany the music with such vivid imagery one cannot help but feel like dancing or crying.

These sonnets describe how the music should be played – like a chirping bird, flowing streams, a mad cuckoo, threatening thunderous clouds, peasants drinking heavily and dancing, hunts, windy ice storms, chattering teeth in freezing icy conditions and rain falling against—windowsills yet finding deliciously warm contentedness inside. It's hard to imagine, that Vivaldi's Four Seasons, brought back to life when his compositions were rediscovered in the 1920's, without a major recording until the 1950s, is now one of the most popular compositions ever written.

The concluding work on this recording is Vivaldi's Triple Concerto RV551 in F Major. The concerto is exuberant, highly textural and has ear-catching phrases (as does most Vivaldi!). I play all three solo parts to showcase the superb palette of sound and color of the violin.

Separating the Vivaldi, is Arvo Pärt's mystical Baroque-inspired Passacaglia. It was originally composed for violin and piano in 2003 and arranged for violin and orchestra by the composer. Arvo Pärt's music speaks beautifully with direct simplicity and purity.

-AAM



Spring - Concerto in E Major I. Allegro

Springtime is upon us. The birds celebrate her return with festive song, and murmuring streams are softly caressed by the breezes. Thunderstorms, those heralds of Spring, roar, casting their dark mantle over heaven, then they die away to silence, and the birds take up their charming songs once more.

II. Largo

On the flower-strewn meadow, with leafy branches rustling overhead, the goatherd sleeps, his faithful dog beside him.

III. Allegro

Led by the festive sound of rustic bagpipes, nymphs and shepherds lightly dance beneath the brilliant canopy of spring.

Summer - Concerto in G Minor

I. Allegro non molto

Beneath the blazing sun's relentless heat men and flocks are sweltering, pines are corched. We hear the cuckoo's voice; then sweet songs of the turtle dove and inch are heard. Soft breezes stir the air... but threatening north wind sweeps hem suddenly aside. The shepherd trembles, fearful of violent storm and what nay lie ahead.

II. Adagio e piano - Presto e forte

His limbs are now awakened from their repose by fear of lightning's flash and hunder's roar, as gnats and flies buzz furiously around.

III. Presto

Alas, his worst fears were justified, as the heavens roar and great hailstones bea down upon the proudly standing corn.

Autumn - Concerto in F Major I. Allegro

The peasant celebrates with song and dance the harvest safely gathered in. The

II. Adagio molto

The singing and the dancing die away as cooling breezes fan the pleasant air, inviting all to sleep without a care.

III. Allegro

The hunters emerge at dawn, ready for the chase, with horns and dogs and cries Their quarry flees while they give chase. Terrified and wounded, the prey struggle on, but, harried, dies.

Winter - Concerto in F Minor

I. Allegro non molto

Shivering, frozen mid the frosty snow in biting, stinging winds; running to and fro

II. Largo

To rest contentedly beside the hearth, while those outside are drenched by pouring

III. Allegro

We tread the icy path slowly and cautiously, for fear of tripping and falling. Then turn abruptly, slip, crash on the ground and, rising, hasten on across the ice lest it cracks up. We feel the chill north winds coarse through the home despite the locked and bolted doors... this is winter, which nonetheless brings its own delights.

