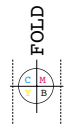


HEAD



(Come, o come, Emanuel). In 'La Nascita di Venere' (The Birth of Venus), Botticelli shows the swan-necked and shell-borne goddess of love emerging from the ocean and readying herself to step ashore. Respighi begins by suggesting her watery origins and the puffs of wind gently pushing her towards land, and ends with triumphal music, which probably represents Venus herself.

In 1923, the barely teenaged Nino Rota was admitted to the Milan Conservatory. Pizzetti, after arriving there one year later, became one of his teachers. In addition to works for the stage and concert hall, Pizzetti also wrote several film scores, but in this genre, the pupil easily outdid the master. In fact, Rota was to become one of the most respected film composers of all time. His collaborations with Federico Fellini (*La strada*, *La dolce vita*, *8 1/2*, etc.) are masterpieces of film music, and he also wrote music for *The Godfather*, Franco Zeffirelli's adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet* and many other films.

Particularly outside of Italy, Rota's film music has tended to divert attention from his works for the concert hall, which in many ways are no less striking and accomplished. In the last decade

there has been a flood of new recordings of Rota's 'classical' music, and many listeners are discovering a side to this composer of which they previously were unaware. In Italy, however, there has been a greater appreciation for Rota's concert works all along. The *Concerto per archi* (Concerto for strings) was composed in 1965 for I Musici, an Italian chamber ensemble particularly acclaimed for their performances of music from the Baroque and early Classical eras. The titles of the four movements reflect the Concerto's neo-Classical ethos, and yet the work is not naïve to music from the 20th century: there's always enough harmonic 'spice' in the sauce to prevent it from seeming merely derivative or bland.

Raymond Tuttle

ILDEBRANDO PIZZETTI (1880-1968)

La Pisanella – Suite

Incidental music to d'Annunzio's play – excerpts

1	I	Le quai du port de Famagouste	3'00
2	II	La danse de Pauvreté et de parfait amour	4'36
3	III	La danse de l'amour et de la mort parfumée	6'19

Concerto de l'estate

4	I	Mattutino	10'22
5	II	Notturmo	6'48
6	III	Gagliarda e Finale	11'38

**L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande
Lamberto Gardelli**

OTTORINO RESPIGHI (1879-1936)

Trittico Botticelliano

Three Botticelli Pictures

7	I	La Primavera	5'31
8	II	L'Adorazione dei Magi	9'06
9	III	La Nascata di Venere	4'43

**Argo Chamber Orchestra
Laszlo Heltay**

NINO ROTA (1911-1979)

**Concerto per archi
Concerto for Strings**

10	I	Preludio	3'40
11	II	Scherzo	4'19
12	III	Aria	4'27
13	IV	Finale	2'58

I Musici

Total timing: 77'58

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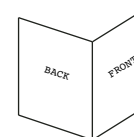
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