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New publication!

SIMONE FONTANELLI

Spots

Per giovani violinisti (e anche per quelli meno giovani)

For young violinists (and also for the less young ones)

Für junge Geiger – jeden Alters!

(2006 - 2010)



SPOTS is a brand-new collection of 48 pieces for solo violin (including some for two violins as well) by the Italian composer, conductor and pedagogue Simone Fontanelli (www.simonefontanelli.com)
Here below, a presentation SPOTS by the composer himself.

PREFACE

I started to compose “SPOTS” in 2006, warmly encouraged to do it by my wife Judit Földes, who is a violist and pedagogue, and by my dear friends Martin Mumelter and Jan Repko, both violinists and pedagogues as well. They asked me to write a collection of violin pieces for children, using the contemporary musical language and style.

SPOTS is not a violin method, although in some aspects could be used as such. SPOTS is a sort of "voyage of discovery" for young violin students, but also for the older and much more experienced ones. Why not even for professionals and those who have retired!

This "voyage" is through the world of feelings and imaginative situations seen through the eyes and felt with the heart of the child. I mean, the "Child" existing within ourself, regardless of our own age.

From a more violinistic, technical point of view, SPOTS explores and uses different ways to approach form, notation, instrumentality, phrasing, even theatricality, etc., etc. in the broadest sense, always strictly connecting all these things with the emotional and imaginative content. For this reason each piece requires the performer a great deal of imagination, freedom and initiative.

I drew some inspiration from György Kurtág's *Játékok* collection of piano pieces.

The 48 pieces presented here are simply in alphabetical order. Performers (or pedagogues) are absolutely free to choose the ones they prefer, or even create special “paths” or groups of pieces connected by a common theme (e.g. a story, a situation, etc.).

June 2010

Simone Fontanelli, *Universität Mozarteum Salzburg*

... and about SPOTS

Manchester, September 19th, 2009

Simone Fontanelli has presented me with “SPOTS” – a set of highly entertaining engaging pieces for solo violin, full of creativity and fantasy.

The pieces in “SPOTS” touch on some familiar, everyday experiences and are written in a clear, uncluttered style, easily appreciated by performers and audiences alike. They are well constructed, highly artistic and an important addition to the solo violin repertoire.

“SPOTS” is an excellent introduction for young musicians to music in a contemporary style, ranging from technically accessible pieces to those suitable for advanced students. As a teacher I am delighted to have these excellent works to add to my teaching material.

This is a collection of musical gems!

Jan Repko

Violin Professor at Royal College of Music, London

Chetham's School of Music, Manchester

Salzburg, 2009. 09, 22

It is my pleasure to recommend Simone Fontanelli's “SPOTS” for violin”. In my opinion they are as well fine compositions as precious pedagogic material; a very pleasant combination of musical (and even theatrical) qualities, fantasy and instrumental challenges, very well adapted to stress further development of all these qualities in young players and – last but not least – much fun for young musicians and their teachers!

Univ. Prof. Martin Mumelter

Professor of violin, Head of the Institute for Contemporary Music

Universität Mozarteum Salzburg

CONTENTS

A due / Two

A Little Angel Within My Heart

Arlecchino / Harlequin

Artists of Tomorrow!!

Breve cantilena di un tempo lontano / Short Lullaby From The Past

Buone intenzioni / Good Intentions

Come si fa a dire addio? / How Can We Say Goodbye?

"... contro il palo della luce" / "...Against The Lamppost"

Correndo sulle scale / Running On The Stairs

Da che parte andiamo? / Where Are we Going?

Decidere o non decidere? (Questo è il problema!) / To Decide Or Not To Decide? (That Is The Problem!)

Devo aver dimenticato qualcosa... / I Must Have Forgotten Something...

Due passi nel giardino dei ricordi / Two steps in the garden of memories

...entro il dolce rumore della vita / ...Within The Sweet Noise Of The Life

Frammenti di un'antica leggenda / Scraps Of An Old Legend

Hommage à Judit Földes (su/on: "Voi che sapete..." di/by W. A. Mozart)

Il tempo che se ne va / Time Flying Away

In bicicletta / Walking With My Bicycle

In cerca del Sig. Intonato / Looking For Mr. In-tune

Incontrandosi per strada / Meeting In The Street

La mia cara vecchia carretta / My Dear Old Jalopy

L'isola nell'infinito / The Island In Infinity

Lontananza / Absence

L'Oratore / The Speaker
Nella foschia / In The Mist
Nel sospiro di un sogno / Within The Sigh Of A Dream
Nonno!, ho una storia da raccontarti!! / Grandad! I've Got A Story To Tell You!!
Oh, nooooo...! Ancora la Tzigane!! / Oh nooooo...! Again The Tzigane!!
Ora lo sistemo io!! / I'll Sort Him Out!!
Osservando un politico in televisione / Watching A Politician On TV
Pensieri interrotti / Interrupted Thoughts
Quando non si sa cosa fare / When You Do Not Know What To Do
Ragionando tra sé e sé / Reasoning With Ourselves
Rock 'n' Flora!
Salendo su per la collina / Climbing Up The Hill
Sconforto / Discouragemen
Solo un bicchier di vino / Just A Glass Of Wine
Sul campo da Golf / On The Golf Course
The Grandfather And His Grandchild
The Lovely Heavy Metal Kid
Ti ricordi quei giorni? / Do You Remember Those Days?
Una accesa discussione! / A Fiery Argument!
Una giornata avventurosa / An Adventurous Day
Una serenata di vetro / A Serenade In Glass
Un'immagine da chissà dove / An Image From Who Knows Where
Un improvviso attimo di rabbia / An Unexpected Moment of Anger
Un panorama di ottave / A Landscape Of Octaves

SPOTS is published by **Edizioni SCONFINARTE**, with catalogue number ES 368

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FONTANELLI'S BIOGRAPHY

Since winning the prestigious VI. Salzburg International Mozart Composition Competition in 1995, Simone Fontanelli has been considered as one of the most interesting and authentic contemporary musical personalities.

As composer and conductor, he has been invited to many international Festivals in Italy, Austria, UK, Spain, Hungary, Sweden, Russia, Germany, Kazakhstan, Israel, Taiwan and USA. He has always received the highest praise for his works: "I treasure his talent very highly..." (*György Kurtág*).

“Fontanelli's music is poetically beautiful, touching” (*Muzsika, Hungarian Music Magazine*) and his interpretations as a conductor: “It is rare that one's music is prepared with such sensitivity and insight, combined with such superb technical skill” (*George Crumb*).

From 2003 to 2009 Mr. Fontanelli was the Director of the Gamper Festival of Contemporary Music (Brunswick, ME - USA) and a member of the distinguished faculty/artist roster of the prestigious Bowdoin Summer Music Festival in Brunswick, a position he has also held in 2008 at the Internationale Sommerakademie Mozarteum in Salzburg. Since 2000 he has been on the faculty of the University of Mozarteum in Salzburg.

Mr. Fontanelli was born in 1961 in Milan. He studied guitar with Notis Mavroudis and Giorgio Oltremari. He also studied Philosophy at the University of Milan. In 1989, he graduated in Composition from the Conservatorio of Milano, where he'd been a pupil of Davide Anzaghi and Umberto Rotondi. He won the first prize at the Ville de Bagnaux International Competition (France 1988). He studied conducting in Hungary and was awarded the “Diploma di Merito” in Instrumental Contemporary Music at the Accademia Chigiana in Siena in 1980 and 1981.

Mr. Fontanelli gives masterclasses and lectures in Music Analysis, Chamber Music, Conducting and Composition. He has been invited to give them at many important universities in Europe, Asia and America including the Juilliard School in New York, the Moskow Tchaikovsky Conservatorio, the Yehudi Menuhin School, the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, the F. Liszt Academy in Budapest and many others.