

# Antonio Vivaldi Six Concerti Op.10

Wissam Boustany – flute

Peter Manning & Stephen Morris, violins

Philip Dukes, viola

Tim Hugh, cello

Mary Scully, double bass

Steven Devine, cembalo

	Concerto No 1 "La Tempesta"	
1	Allegro	2.26
2	Largo	1.44
3	Presto	2.03
	Concerto No 2 "La Notte"	
4	Largo - Fantasmi	2.53
5	Largo - Presto	2.03
6	Largo "Il Sonno" - Allegro	4.00
	Concerto No 3 "IL Gardellino"	
7	Allegro	3.28
8	Cantabile	2.49
9	Allegro	2.45

	Concerto No 4	
10	Allegro	2.29
11	Largo	2.11
12	Allegro	2.18
	Concerto No 5	
13	Allegro ma	3.06
14	Largo e cantabile	3.18
15	Allegro	1.45
	Concerto No 6	
16	Allegro	3.41
17	Largo	1.44
18	Allegro	2.07
	Playing time	47.21

**Recording Producers** Jonathan Stracey and Andrew Keener

**Sound Engineer** Mike Clements

**Cover** ATX Design

Recorded 19th, 20th & 21st February 1998, at St Georges' Brandon Hill, Bristol

Wissam Boustany is playing on a flute made by Lebrecht (#2159), re-tuned with new keywork by Mr Tanaka in Taiwan. The headjoint is made by Louis Lot (#3284), with a lip-plate by Albert Cooper.

The single-manual harpsichord used on this recording was made in 1997 by Colin Booth, after Vater, and was tuned by Steven Devine.

## INTRODUCTION

To love Vivaldi's music is to love nature, life and all things perpetual, aesthetic and ecstatic. So many years after Vivaldi lived out his life (1678-1741), we still enjoy his colourful, energetic music all over the world. This is proof that certain inner revelations can indeed be shared across generations and boundaries. Truth will not bow in the face of Time, nor will it cease to demand our attention as the human race progresses determinedly towards nowhere in particular.

Time, or rather Timelessness (or maybe both), this is what Vivaldi seems to capture so beautifully in his music. His vivid portrayals of the ever-changing and miraculous transformations of nature, in all its diversity and seasons, seem to always come back to the inevitable, fleeting, self-perpetuating and ultimately comforting nature of Time. Don't ask me to justify or prove any of this (I am not a scholar) - these thoughts are based purely on the feelings and revelations I experienced while exploring this amazing set of concertos. Crafted into inspired and perfect structures of emotion, rhythm and sequence combine to become the perfect tools to portray and explain Life's deep harmony and balance within itself.

The fact that such a serene observer of Life should have been a priest in the Ospedale della Pieta, a school and orphanage for young girls in Venice, comes as a reassuring reminder that Vivaldi did not hide away from life on a human scale. His work as a priest within the context of this orphanage was probably a very important factor in making his music so popular and relevant in his own time. This is why I have chosen to donate £1 out of the sale of each CD towards the care of abandoned or needy children around the world (see notes on SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES INTERNATIONAL). This is part of Towards Humanity, my international initiative using the inspirational qualities of music as a catalyst for promoting and raising funds for humanitarian work around the world.

I can think of no better tribute to Vivaldi's enduring inspiration to us all, than to be continuing his work helping children towards the fulfilment of their destinies, as he did in his own lifetime. May music live on, converting Inspired Thought into Inspired Reality, for our fragile planet.



Wissam Boustany

## ABOUT THE MUSIC

So much has already been written about the historical aspects of Vivaldi's music. I do not have any valuable historical facts to add, so I have decided to write a few words about each Concerto, to help define an emotional context and framework:

### Concerto No.1 "La Tempesta"

*Allegro - Largo - Presto*

Fluid Food of Life,  
Eternity Laughing out of Each Drop!  
Grateful Living Creatures on Earth  
Worship your Soothing Wetness.

### Concerto No.4

*Allegro - Largo - Allegro*

Drink, Feast, Dance,  
The Joyous Season has Arrived!  
Life! Bloom! Fruit!  
The Cold Season has Melted  
Into the Ecstasy of Spring!

### Concerto No.2 "La Notte"

*Largo - Fantasi Largo - Presto Il Sonno - Allegro*

Darkness Descending  
World of Silence and Mystery.  
Wrapped in Deep Ink Moods,  
Drowning in the unresolved,  
Waiting...Preparing...

### Concerto No.5

*Allegro ma non tanto - Largo e cantabile - Allegro*

Venice! City of Secrets and Mystery.  
The Sleek Gondola Cuts Silently  
through Murky Waters.  
Stench of Death and Decay  
Mixed with Wild Orgy and Ceremony.  
Candlelit Allies Exposing Sorrowful Shadows  
Hiding behind Masks of Flirtatious Lust.

### Concerto No.3 "Il Gardellino"

*Allegro - Cantabile - Allegro*

Delightful Bird!  
Explosions of Uninhibited Joy  
Within your Fragile Frame!  
Song of Lightness, Colour and Freedom,  
Delicate, Exquisite and Pure!  
Your Bright Call  
Penetrates into the Silent Forest...

### Concerto No.6

*Allegro - Largo - Allegro*

Joyous Variation on the Song of Life,  
Each day Recalls the Past,  
Erupting into the Present,  
Yielding to Hopeful Rainbows Arching  
Beyond the Now.  
Behind the Mask of Superficial Motion and Change,  
Eternal Secret Truth...

## TOWARDS HUMANITY

Towards Humanity is a long-term, non-political initiative, which takes the form of high-profile concerts to support non-violent resolution of conflict and provide a focus for peace organisations. Founded by international flutist Wissam Boustany who grew up in Beirut, Towards Humanity has captured the imagination of communities around the world. In his own words: "Music opens the Doors of Inspiration between People and Nations and helps us reflect on our Common Humanity..."

Towards Humanity combines the energies of musicians, humanitarian organisations, international media networks and influential companies to inspire global co-operation for peace outside the political arena. The inaugural event took place at the Royal Albert Hall, February 2nd 1995; its purpose was to provide a platform for peace in the Middle-East and, on a practical level, the aim was to raise £20,000 for each of five charities in Beirut, Amman, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Cairo. Since then, numerous concerts have taken place in the Middle East, Europe and North America, which have aided various initiatives for Bosnia, Lebanon, Zimbabwe and Ireland.

In 1997 Wissam Boustany was awarded a knighthood by the Lebanese government (Chevalier de l'Ordre du Cedre) in recognition of his music and peace work. On 3rd February 1998 he was presented with the Crystal Award at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.



### SOS Children's Villages UK

SOS Children's Villages helps children and young people, of all cultures and religions, who have no one else to care for them. SOS Children's Villages wants to help create a world where every child is loved and respected and in which each child can develop to her or his full potential.



SOS Children's Villages provide hope and security for orphaned and abandoned children. Every SOS Children's Village helps children grow towards a happy, independent future, just as they would in a natural family. The SOS philosophy is a simple one based on four guiding principles: to give each child a mother, a family and a home in a village that is part of the wider community...leading to a better future.

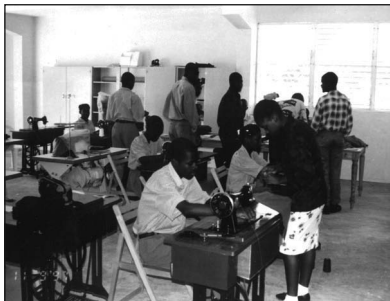
**A mother:** every abandoned child is given a mother - theirs for life. She takes on all the joys and responsibilities of motherhood and is someone the children can turn to and trust.

**A family:** Each SOS mother cares for a family of six to eight boys and girls of varying ages, growing up together like a natural family. Natural brothers and sisters are never separated.

**A home:** Each family has its own house, a permanent home where each child can grow up in a loving security.

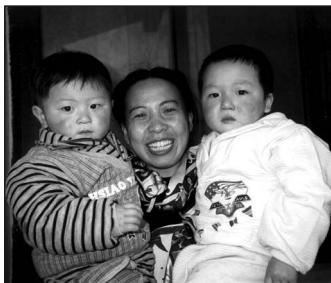
**A village:** An SOS Children's Village consists of ten to twenty families and provides a bridge to the outside world. The children are brought up in their own cultural traditions and faith, and go to schools within the local community.





...leading to a better future: SOS Children's Villages gives children the education and training they need to achieve independence. This includes vocational training and further education. Help is also given to set young people up in business. SOS Children's Villages works in 128 countries with more than 370 villages and 1160 related projects. It is nongovernmental, non-denominational and is funded primarily by voluntary donations. It is dedicated to helping orphaned or abandoned children whatever their race, nationality or religion.

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 website: <http://www.soschildren.org>



### Wissam Boustany - Flute

Wissam Boustany's international career as a concert artist and teacher has taken him to South and North America, Europe and the Middle and Far East. In 1995 Boustany founded *Toward Humanity*, an international initiative which uses music as a catalyst to support humanitarian projects on an international scale. Born in Lebanon, Boustany began his musical studies with his stepfather. He moved to Britain in 1977 where he studied at Chetham's School of Music & the Royal Northern College of Music, with Trevor Wye. He has received many awards, notably the Silver Medal in the 1982 Madeira International Flute Competition and (in the same year) the woodwind prize in the Royal Overseas League Competition. He received the silver medal in the Shell/LSO competition and won the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in the woodwind section of the first BBC Young Musician of the Year.

In 1997 he was awarded a knighthood by the Lebanese government (*Chevalier de l'Ordre du Cèdre*) in recognition of his music and peace work. On 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1998 he was presented with the *Crystal Award* at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Wissam continues to use his music as a powerful healing force to 'open the doors of inspiration between people and nations, and help us reflect on our common humanity'. He is also Professor of Flute at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, UK.

For more information about Wissam and Towards Humanity: <http://www.wissamboustany.com>

### Peter Manning - Violin

Acknowledged as one of the finest British musicians, Peter Manning's international career has seen him tour the major musical centres for over a decade. He gave his solo debut with the Philharmonia Orchestra at the Festival Hall in a live broadcast of the Mendelssohn Concerto and since that time has played with many of the world's finest orchestras. In 1983 he was appointed as leader of the London Philharmonic. He left this post in 1986 to devote his energies to lead and develop the BRITTEN STRING QUARTET. The quartet enjoyed a fine international reputation playing in many of the world's major venues, and their numerous recordings (22) have received wide critical acclaim. The quartet disbanded after 10 years in 1996. Peter is invited to direct and lead many orchestras and in addition to his solo and continuing chamber music appearances has recently been appointed as leader of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. He is married with 4 children and is a professor at the Royal College of Music, holding fellowships at the Royal Society of Arts and at the R.N.C.M.

For more information: <http://www.manningmusic.com>



### Stephen Morris - Violin

Steve Morris studied at the Royal Academy of Music, becoming a member of the Duke String Quartet whilst still a student. He later went on to study with Valerij Klimov in Saarbrücken. Subsequently he has enjoyed a career of enormous variety. He has been a principle player with the Scottish Ensemble since 1993, with whom he has also appeared as soloist and director. His trio KammerSpiel has performed and broadcast throughout Europe and premiered several new works. He recently performed and recorded with jazz artists Carla Bley and Steve Swallow and has made several appearances with Nigel Kennedy. He is currently a member of the Medici String Quartet. For more information: <http://www.kammerspiel.com>

### Philip Dukes - Viola

Philip Dukes is one of Britain's most outstanding solo viola players. As a concerto soloist Philip has appeared with many of Britain's leading orchestras including The London Philharmonic, The Royal Philharmonic, The Philharmonia, The Hallé and The Bournemouth Symphony. He has worked with a number of distinguished conductors including Yehudi Menuhin, Kent Nagano, Matthias Bamert and Osmo Vanska. In 1995 Philip made his concerto debut at the BBC Promenade concerts in London. Following the prestigious "Rising Stars" award in 1997 Philip appeared as a recitalist at the Musikverein (Vienna), the Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), the Alte Oper (Frankfurt), the Cologne Philharmonie and the Konzerthaus (Stockholm). Philip records for Chandos, ASV and Collins Classics recording labels in Britain.

For more information: <http://www.philipdukes.co.uk>

### Tim Hugh - Cello

In 1990 Tim Hugh won two medals at the Tchaikovsky Competition. Critics have since praised his records and concert appearances. With Naxos Records, he has embarked on a long-term project of recording the major British Cello Concertos. The first of these, the Bliss Concerto, was chosen as Editor's Choice in Gramophone magazine and is one of the top ten best sellers. He has also recorded the Britten Cello Symphony and Walton Concerto, as well as the three Britten Suites, Beethoven Sonatas, CPE Bach Concerto, all twelve Bocherini Concertos, four Hoffman Concertos and "Invocation" by Gustav Holst. His enthusiasm for chamber music has led to membership of two ensembles, Domus and the Solomon Trio, with whom he has also made many recordings. "Hugh's tone is surprisingly dark and warm, like an exceptional claret and as richly coloured. His beautiful sound is matched by an outstanding musicality and sense of musical architecture; every phrase was transmitted with a depth and subtlety rare even from the greatest players" Paul Cutts, the Strad, September 1997

For more information: <http://www.timhugh.co.uk>

### Mary Scully - Double Bass

Born in Omagh, Northern Ireland, Mary Scully studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama with Thomas Martin and Kevin Rundell. She was a founder member of the Guildhall String Ensemble with whom she made many recordings for RCA BMG. Since then she has played Principle Double-bass with the Philharmonia and with many chamber orchestras such as the English Chamber Orchestra, the City of London Sinfonia, The London Sinfonietta and the London Mozart Players. She has also played with many chamber ensembles such as the Nash Ensemble, London Winds, Composers Ensemble, Endymion and Capricorn.

### Steven Devine - Cembalo

Steven Devine received his early musical training at Chetham's School of Music in Manchester, where he studied harpsichord, organ, piano and conducting. He continued his education at Oxford University studying music, and now divides his time between professional performances on the harpsichord, early piano and conducting, and as Assistant Curator at the Finchcocks Collection of historical keyboard instruments in Kent. As a harpsichordist, since he won the first prize in the inaugural Broadwood Harpsichord Competition in 1993, he has performed extensively in Britain and Europe and has made recordings on Radio 3, Classic FM, WDR, Radio France and Channel 4. He plays regularly with artists such as Evelyn Tubb, Emma Kirkby and ensembles including The Parley of Instruments, The Consort of Musicke and Sprezzatura. His editions of seventeenth and eighteenth-century repertoire, used by a widening circle of artists, include John Eccles' Semele, John Gay's Beggar's Opera and the complete musical settings of the poetry of John Wilmot, the 2nd Earl of Rochester.

*For more information: <http://www.stevendevine.com>*

Also available by Wissam Boustany on Nimbus Alliance



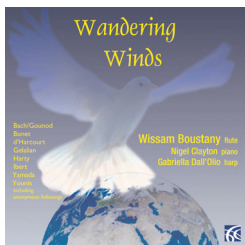
NI6166

with Stefan Warzycki – piano  
Bela Bartok, Frank Martin, Wissam Boustany  
Simon Holt, Bohuslav Martinu



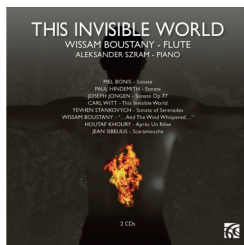
NI6168

with Volodymyr Sirenko – conductor & the National  
Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine  
Aram Khatchaturian, Yevhen Stankovych, Houtaf Khoury



NI6169

with Gabriella Dall'Olio – harp and Nigel Clayton – piano  
Tarek Younis, Yashiro, Bach/Gounod, Beclard d'Harcourt  
Hamilton Harty, Gelalian, C. Bonet, K. Yamada  
Gustavo Samela, Jacques Ibert



NI6170 - double CD

with Aleksander Szram – piano  
Mel Bonis, Carl Witt, Joseph Jongen, Paul Hindemith,  
Yevhen Stankovych, Wissam Boustany, Houtaf Khoury,  
Jean Sibelius