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02/10-(4)

**Luigi Gatti** (1740-1817)

- Sestetto for english horn, bassoon,  
violin, viola, violoncello & double bass  
- Serenata for oboe, bassoon,  
2 horns & string quintet

Calamus Ensemble

1 CD

**Order No.:** MDG 603 1589-2

**UPC-Code:**



LC06768

### Double Surprise

The Calamus Ensemble has often surprised us with recordings by rather unknown composers. These musicians now present us a sextet and a serenata for an octet of winds and strings (in all likelihood celebrating its recording premiere) by Luigi Gatti, an Italian composer from Lake Garda.

### Career Itinerary

Luigi Gatti, the son of an organist, was born in Lazise on 7 October 1740. Already as a child he began his training as a singer, composer, and conductor at the seminary in nearby Mantua. It was also in Mantua that he was ordained a priest and gathered varied experience as a musician who then went on to enjoy a career at performance venues such as the Milan Scala. When Gatti was in his early forties, he found his way to the northern side of the Alps. Until his death in 1817 he was employed as the court music director of the Prince Archbishop of Salzburg, whose court orchestra included a fellow by the name of Leopold Mozart among its violinists.

### Compositional Library

Some 150 works by Luigi Gatti are listed in the Ostiglia Music Library. They include a great many orchestral and chamber works and have been transmitted with many inkblots and corrections. The "Sestetto" in E flat major composed by Gatti in Salzburg in 1790 is a little sinfonia concertante in which, in Haydn's manner, the violin, cello, English horn, and bassoon constantly alternate in the solo

interplay. The "Serenata a più stromenti di Concerto" also proves to be a superbly set, completely unknown classical work offering the soloists ample opportunity to display their brilliance above all in the virtuoso passages.

### Discoverer's Courage

The Calamus Ensemble was founded in 1985 by renowned soloists and professors. After initial CD recordings with works by Danzi, Reicha, Salieri, Pleyel, Hindemith, and Ligeti, the musicians have performed in changing formations. In addition to their radio productions, they have recorded further CDs with chamber music by André Caplet and wind ensembles from quartets to sextets by Johann Georg Lickl on the MDG label.

"A wonderful rediscovery, in every respect" (ensemble).

"Lively, finely proportioned, precise, and expressively strong" (Rohrblatt).

"There is no question: this is an excellent recording" (Fanfare).

### Joh. Evangelist Brandl

Vol. 1: Bassoon Quintets op. 14; 52, 1+2  
MDG 603 1133-2

Vol. 2: Quintets op. 13, 61, 62  
MDG 603 1175-2