

NEW RELEASE

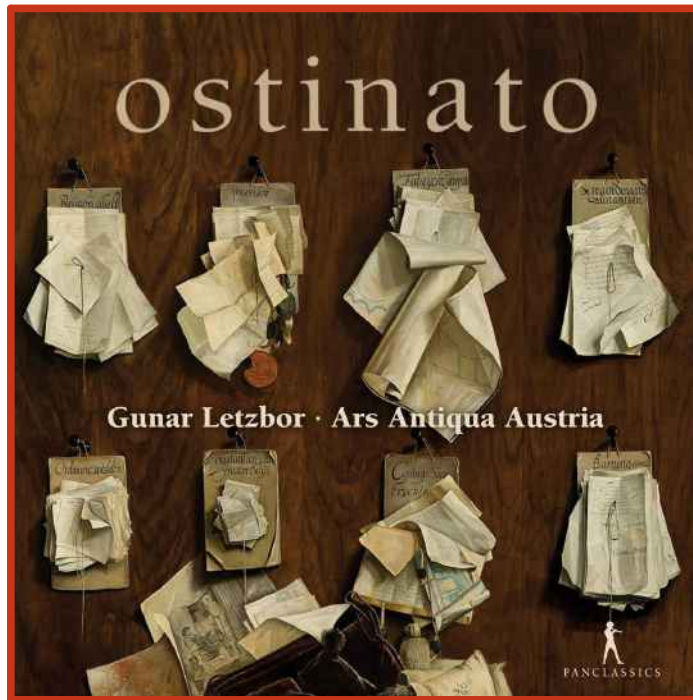
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Heinrich Ignaz Franz Biber; Georg Arnold; Antonio Bertali; Heinrich Döbel;
Johann Heinrich Schmelzer; Johann Josef Vilsmayr
Ostinato
Gunar Letzbor; Ars Antiqua Austria; Salzburg Lute Consort

PC10444	1 CD
01Q	2021



In music, "ostinato" (Latin obstinatus: "obstinate") is a constantly repeated sequence of notes. A constantly repeated bass motif is perfect for improvisation - which in turn inspired many Baroque composers to write numerous masterpieces.

Gunar Letzbor has put together a splendid programme from this fund of pieces, including the well-known Ciaconnas by Bertali and Schmelzer and two ostinato-dominated sonatas by the violin virtuoso Biber, but also works by lesser-known composers such as Georg Arnold, Heinrich Döbel and Johann Josef Vilsmayr. In the question of the continuo instrumentation, the Ensemble **Ars Antiqua Austria** breaks new ground: according to new research, the magnificent Salzburg court, where Biber was Kapellmeister, had a special continuo accompaniment: for this magnificent instrumentation with lute, chitarra attiorba and colachone, the ensemble had the instruments specially reconstructed and now lets the "Salzburg lute continuo" be heard again on this recording.