

## **Programme Note:**

Dittersdorf's Double Bass Concerto No. 2 is among the most popular works performed on the instrument, and is a regular feature of recitals and auditions. This piece was originally written for performance in Viennese tuning, and makes use of frequent arpeggio patterns that follow the open strings of this tuning.

Bottesini's Fantasy on La Sonnambula was one of the first pieces to bring him widespread recognition as a performer. The work premiered at the Royal Italian Opera in London in 1849 and was subsequently performed on Bottesini's 1849 tour of England, quickly becoming a favourite amongst audiences. The work is based on themes from Bellini's opera of the same name, and draws upon Bottesini's operatic style of writing.