



**artists:** Rachel Barton Pine, violin  
**title:** Bel Canto Paganini: 24 Caprices and other works for solo violin  
**price:** 2 CDs for the price of 1-1/2  
**release date:** May 19, 2017  
**selection number:** AV 2374  
**bar code:** 822252237429

**about the release**

Billboard chart-topping violinist **Rachel Barton Pine** traverses Paganini’s ground breaking set of *24 Caprices* with virtuosic flair and, in equal measure, reverence for the *bel canto* – or “beautiful singing” – style of the composer’s generation. Playing on the ‘ex-Bazzini, ex-Soldat’ Guarneri del Gesù violin from 1742 – made by the same Cremona-based maker in the same year as Paganini’s own violin – Rachel channels the composer’s own

technical wizardry as well as his love for beautiful melodies.

Rachel was first introduced to Paganini’s *Caprices* at the age of six. In her early 20s she gave her first performance of all *24 Caprices* in a single concert, a feat she has accomplished several times since including at the National Gallery in Washington D.C. and the Ravinia Festival.

Rachel fills out this two-album set with other pyrotechnical works by Paganini, including his “Duet for One”, *Caprice d’adieu* and the *Introduction and Variations on ‘Nel cor più non mi sento’* from Giovanni Paisiello’s opera *La molinara*. Inspired by Paganini’s legacy of virtuosic themes and variations, Rachel concludes the set with her own *Introduction, Theme and Variations on ‘God Defend New Zealand’*, written in 2000 for the final concert of her first tour of that country.

Paganini dedicated his *24 Caprices* “to all the artists.” Rachel in turn dedicates this recording “to all the listeners,” of which there will be legions.

**critical acclaim for Rachel Barton Pine**

“Poise and precision ... This is a delightful set, beautifully performed and presented ... another major addition to Pine’s impressive discography” – *MusicWeb International, Recording of the Month* (on Mozart Complete Violin Concertos and Sinfonia Concertante, AV2317)

“Playing that feels entirely at the service of Bach’s profound music, but in the best possible way: a powerful and personal performance of these masterpieces for solo violin.” – *Gramophone, Editor’s Choice* (on Testament: Complete Sonatas and Partitas for Solo Violin by J. S. Bach, AV 2360)

**summary**

Violinist **Rachel Barton Pine** performs Paganini’s *24 Caprices* with virtuosic flair and reverence to the *bel canto* style of the composer’s generation. Rounding out the two-album set are Paganini’s “Duet for One”, *Caprice d’adieu* and *Introduction and Variations on ‘Nel cor più non mi sento’*, and Rachel’s own Paganini-inspired *Introduction, Theme and Variations on ‘God Defend New Zealand’*.

**performance dates**

May 5	Davis, California	Mondavi Center
June 2	Hong Kong	City Orchestra of Hong Kong
June 17	Stevens Point, Wisconsin	Aber Suzuki Center
July 22 – 24	Santa Fe, New Mexico	Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival
October 7 – 8	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	Harrisburg Symphony
November 4 – 5	Las Cruces, New Mexico	Las Cruces Symphony
November 17 – 18	Toledo, Ohio	Toledo Symphony

*tracklist*

**Nicolò Paganini** (1782 – 1840)

**CD 1**

1. **Introduction and Variations on “Nel cor più non mi sento” from Paisiello’s *La molinara*** [12:57]

**24 Caprices for solo violin, op. 1**

2. Caprice in E Major, Op. 1, No. 1 (Andante) [1:52]
3. Caprice in B Minor, Op. 1, No. 2 (Moderato) [4:14]
4. Caprice in E Minor, Op. 1, No. 3 (Sostenuto – Presto – Sostenuto) [3:19]
5. Caprice in C Minor, Op. 1, No. 4 (Maestoso) [10:43]
6. Caprice in A Minor, Op. 1, No. 5 (Agitato) [3:02]
7. Caprice in G Minor, Op. 1, No. 6 (Lento) [8:07]
8. Caprice in A Minor, Op. 1, No. 7 (Posato) [7:54]
9. Caprice in E-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 8 (Maestoso) [5:43]
10. Caprice in E Major, Op. 1, No. 9 (Allegretto) [3:13]
11. Caprice in G Minor, Op. 1, No. 10 (Vivace) [2:56]
12. Caprice in C Major, Op. 1, No. 11 (Andante – Presto – Andante) [4:27]
13. Caprice in A-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 12 (Allegro) [4:55]

**Total time CD 1:** 73:24

**CD 2**

1. Caprice in B-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 13 (Allegro) [2:44]
2. Caprice in E-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 14 (Moderato) [2:04]
3. Caprice in E Minor, Op. 1, No. 15 (Posato) [2:58]
4. Caprice in G Minor, Op. 1, No. 16 (Presto) [1:28]
5. Caprice in E-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 17 (Sostenuto – Andante) [3:47]
6. Caprice in C Major, Op. 1, No. 18 (Corrente – Allegro) [2:31]
7. Caprice in E-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 19 (Lento – Allegro assai) [3:10]
8. Caprice in D Major, Op. 1, No. 20 (Allegretto) [3:09]
9. Caprice in A Major, Op. 1, No. 21 (Amoroso – Presto) [3:27]
10. Caprice in F Major, Op. 1, No. 22 (Marcato) [3:03]
11. Caprice in E-flat Major, Op. 1, No. 23 (Posato) [5:44]
12. Caprice in A Minor, Op. 1, No. 24 (Quasi Presto) [4:25]
13. **Duet for One** (Adagio – Allegro molto) [2:45]
14. **Caprice d’Adieu** (Allegro moderato) [3:08]

Rachel Barton Pine (b. 1974)

15. **Introduction, Theme and Variations on “God Defend New Zealand”** [4:43]

Total time CD 2: 49:11

Recording: Aug 31, Sept. 1 – 3, Sept. 5, 2015; November 28, 29, December 1, 2, 2016, St. Paul United Church of Christ, Chicago

Recording producer: Tim Martyn

Recording engineer: Bill Maylone

Editing: Stewart French

# MARKETING AND PROMOTION

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## ***media targets***

Classical, Strings, Early Music

## ***advertising***

Print: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine

Online: Facebook, Twitter

## ***reviews***

Magazines: Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Listen, Fanfare, American Record Guide, Strings, The Strad

Newspapers: Sunday Times, Financial Times, Daily Telegraph, Guardian, Observer, Chicago Tribune

## ***airplay***

BBC Radio 3 – Record Review; Classic FM (target Album of the Week); NPR; WFMT – Chicago

## ***key territories***

USA

## ***listening link***

<https://soundcloud.com/usicompanyinternationaltd/sets/rachel-barton-pine-bel-canto-paganini>

## ***lead / instant grat tracks***

CD1, Track 2 – Caprice No. 1

CD2, Track 9 – Caprice No. 21

CD2, Track 12 – Caprice No. 24

## ***social media***

Rachel Barton Pine: Facebook – 8,800; Twitter – 6,000

AVIE Records: Facebook – 800; Twitter – 1,400

## ***independent pr***

Jane Covner & Allison Van Etten (Ravenscroft PR)

Crossover Media (radio)