

ATMA Classique

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YEARS

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## I Mercanti di Venezia

*Jewish musicians and marranos in London and in Northern Italy*  
Salomone Rossi, Giovanni Bassano, Augustine Bassano



**Artist:** Bande Montréal Baroque; Milnes, Eric  
**Title:** *I Mercanti di Venezia*  
**Label:** ATMA Classique  
**Catalogue No:** ACD2 2598

### Track list:

- SALOMONE ROSSI** (v.1570-1630)  
1 :: Sonata sopra l'aria di Ruggiero  
2 :: Motet Eyn Kelohienu [aux instruments]  
3 :: Sonata in dialogo detta la Viena  
4 :: Sonata sopra l'aria d'un balletto  
**GIOVANNI BASSANO** (?-1617)  
5 :: Ricercata Ottava  
**SALOMONE ROSSI**  
6 :: Sonata quinta sopra un aria francese  
**GIOVANNI BASSANO**  
7 :: Ricercare terza  
8 :: Diminutions sur Anchor che col partire de Cipriano da Rore  
9 :: Diminutions sur Ung Gay Bergier de Thomas Créquillon  
**AUGUSTINE BASSANO** (v.1526-1604)  
10 :: Fantasia decima  
**SALOMONE ROSSI**  
11 :: Motet Bor'chu et adonoy [aux instruments]  
**GIOVANNI BASSANO**  
12 :: Ricercata seconda  
**AUGUSTINE BASSANO**  
13 :: Pavana & Galliarda  
**GIOVANNI BASSANO**  
14 :: Diminutions sur Frais et gaillard de Clemens non Papa  
15 :: Diminutions sur Oncques amour de Thomas Créquillon  
**SALOMONE ROSSI**  
16 :: Sonata a quattro

### BANDE MONTRÉAL BAROQUE

Eric Milnes, conductor, organ and harpsichord

Francis Colpron	recorders
Matthew Jennejohn,	recorder & cornetto
Hélène Plouffe & Olivier Brault	Baroque violin
Margaret Little	treble and bass viols
Mélanie Corriveau	viol and recorder
Susie Napper	viol and Baroque cello
Olivier Fortin	organ and harpsichord

*I Mercanti di Venezia* (The Merchants of Venice) is a new recording of instrumental music by Italian Jewish early-Baroque composers Salomone Rossi, Giovanni Bassano, and Augustine Bassano. **Bande Montréal Baroque** — made up of that city's most accomplished performers on period instruments — is led by New-York based conductor **Eric Milnes**.

Since 2003, Eric Milnes has been recording the complete sacred cantatas of Johann Sebastian Bach for ATMA. He is also involved in joint productions with ATMA and the Montréal Baroque Festival, the latest of which is represented on this recording that brings 17<sup>th</sup>-century Venice to life.

In northern Italy during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, music by Jewish composers flourished and there was a great eagerness to explore Hebraic culture, thanks, in part, to the interest of the humanists in the texts of Judaism.

Venice was the most cosmopolitan of European cities at the time, where "one heard the most varied sounds: songs in Hebrew mixed with mangled Mediterranean dialects, and with more exotic tongues; there were Spaniards, Turks, Portuguese, Levantines, and Greeks all talking and, of course, some Polish and German patois, as well as various Italian dialects," according to 20<sup>th</sup> century historian Riccardo Calimani.

The imaginative and energized performances of Eric Milnes have been applauded at early music festivals around the world. As conductor, he has directed New York Baroque, The New York Collegium, Trinity Consort (Portland, Oregon), The Northwest Chamber Orchestra (Seattle), I Cantori di New York, Musica Divina (Ottawa), and Les Boréades, and Les Voix Baroques (Montreal).

The Bande Montréal Baroque was formed specifically for the Montréal Baroque Festival, which has been held every June in Old Montréal since 2003. The Bande opens the 2010 edition of the Festival on June 24 with a performance of Monteverdi's *Vespro della Beata Vergine* featuring soloists **Suzie LeBlanc, Monika Mauch, Jay Gonzales, Charles Daniels, Harry van der Kamp** and the **Studio de Musique Ancienne de Montréal**.

*I Mercanti di Venezia* will be available from May 25, 2010.

Further details: [www.atmaclassique.com](http://www.atmaclassique.com)

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