

## RAFFAELE LA RAGIONE

“Le jeune Raffaele La Ragione est aujourd’hui à la mandoline ce que Gustav Leonhardt fut jadis au clavecin” *Le Monde*

“On his four-course Neapolitan mandolin, La Ragione is a total joy”  
*Gramophone*

Born in Naples in 1986, Raffaele La Ragione took up the mandolin at a very early age. Since then, he has devoted himself to researching historical plectrum instruments and their original repertoire, from early music to contemporary, to which he has dedicated numerous recordings for different labels (Arcana / Outthere Music, Warner Classics, Brilliant Classics)

As a soloist and chamber musician he has toured throughout Italy, Europe and Asia and he has collaborated as performer and recording artist with I Solisti Veneti (Claudio Scimone), Il Pomo d’oro (Francesco Corti), Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra (Myung-Whun Chung), La Serenissima (Adrian Chandler), Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana, Greek National Opera, Orchestra dei Pomeriggi Musicali Milano, La Toscanini Parma.

In 2020, on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Ludwig van Beethoven, he released the disc **Beethoven and his Contemporaries**, which was favorably received by the critics all around the world. In 2022 he recorded the CD **Mandolin on Stage** with Il Pomo d’Oro orchestra conducted by Francesco Corti. The album is dedicated to the most important mandolin concertos of the 18th century, composed between Naples and Vienna, which appear in a new light here thanks to the use of three different period mandolins. The album received different awards and a nomination for the German Preis der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik for the best early music album.

Since 2018 he has been a member of the Orchestra Italiana of Renzo Arbore, the greatest Italian showman with whom he has toured Italy and appeared in television broadcasts on Rai1, Rai2 and Rai5.

He is mandolin teacher at the Bergamo Conservatory.

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