

**Luca Francesconi**  
***Quartet no. 4***  
***I voli di Niccolò***

The world premiere of Francesconi's Fourth Quartet "*I voli di Niccolò*" is to be given by the Arditti Quartet at the Teatro Carlo Felice in Genoa on the 26th of October for the "Paganiniana 2005" series.

About this work, the composer says that it is "unpredictable, like Paganini himself. Because it is acrobatic, yet at the same time very serious. Soaring, but complex. Rooted in the quartet tradition (and violinistic in particular), but also embedded in the Dionysiac energy of folk music. Harsh at times, to be sure, but always with a story to tell. Also with a hint of irony (the second movement is subtitled *Folk Dance*, the last movement *Dyonisian*)". It is based on certain fragments of Paganini and built on intervals of a perfect fifth. Just one other curious detail: it is the first time he is presenting a work divided into movements.

*Roberta Milanaccio*  
(translated by Hugh Ward-Perkins)