

String Quartet No. 4 in C Minor

Rondeau

Joseph Bologne, Op. 1
(1745-1799)

The musical score is for a string quartet in C minor, 2/4 time, marked piano (p). It consists of four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The time signature is 2/4. The score begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. The first ending is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The second ending is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Joseph Bologne (1745-1799) was born to an enslaved African and her Guadeloupean master. His father moved the family to France in 1753, where Joseph became a skilled fencer and was dubbed chevalier at age nineteen. As an acclaimed professional violinist, he premiered his own concerti and published string quartets, operas, and symphonies. He founded the Concert de la Loge Olympique, directed the Amateurs, and was a colonel of the Légion des Américains et du Midi.