

String Quartet No. 4 in C Minor

Allegro Moderato

Joseph Bologne, Op. 1
(1745-1799)

The image displays a musical score for a string quartet, consisting of four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The score is in C minor and 3/4 time. It is divided into three systems of four measures each, starting at measure 10, 14, and 18. The first system (measures 10-13) features a *rinf.* (ritardando) marking. The second system (measures 14-17) includes *p* (piano) markings. The third system (measures 18-21) includes *f* (forte) markings. The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature of 3/4.

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.