

String Quartet No. 2 in E \flat Major

Rondeau

Joseph Bologne, Op. 1
(1745-1799)

The image shows the first four measures of a musical score for a string quartet. The score is for four parts: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The key signature is E-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/8. The first measure of each part is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The score is written in a standard musical notation with a treble clef for the violins and a bass clef for the viola and cello. The first measure of each part is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The score is written in a standard musical notation with a treble clef for the violins and a bass clef for the viola and cello.

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.