

# Johann Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber: *Rosary Sonatas*

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**Abstract:** *Johann Heinrich Ignaz Franz von Biber's personality and work were pivotal in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, which is why he is considered one of the most prominent violinists and composers today. Born in the former Bohemia, later he worked in Austria as a violinist and composer in the Salzburg court. He was practically one of the first composers to compose for a solo violin. Among other things, he became a well-known and respected composer for the - until then – unexplored areas used in the Rosary Sonatas on the violin, the use of scordatura as a musical background, high positions, double stops, etc. In this article, I would like to present a more detailed but concise description of the historical origins and instrumental solutions of the Rosary Sonatas, presumably written in 1678.*

Key-words: *Biber, Salzburg, Rosary sonatas, scordatura*

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