

Ewa Podles – Handel Arias from Rinaldo and Orlando (2000)

Written by bluesever

Sunday, 28 February 2010 16:38 - Last Updated Thursday, 07 November 2013 17:05

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1. *Rinaldo: Venti turbini*
 2. *Rinaldo: Cara sposa*
 3. *Rinaldo: Abbruggio, avvampo e fremo*
 4. *Rinaldo: E un incendio frà due venti*
 5. *Rinaldo: Ogni indugio d'un amante*
 6. *Rinaldo: Or la tromba*
 - 7/8. *Rinaldo: Tale stupor m'occupa...Cor ingrato*
 9. *Rinaldo: Il tricerbero umiliato*
 10. *Orlando: Fammi combattere*
 - 11/12. *Orlando: E questa la mercede...Cielo! Se tu il consenti*
 - 13/14. *Orlando: Immagini funeste...Non fu già men forte Alcide*
 15. *Orlando: Già lo stringo*
 - 16/17/18. *Orlando: Ah Stigie larve...Già latra Cerbero...Vaghe pupille*
- Ewa Podles – contralto Malcolm Hamilton - harpsichord Moscow Chamber Orchestra
Constantine Orbelian – conductor

...impressive three-octave range...hugely resonant and heroic low tones, smoky middle, brilliant top...astonishing flexibility... this recital reveals her dazzling outrageous and personalized approach to Handel, and it is stunning. The first two tracks alone demonstrate mastery of every vocal, theatrical and musical technique demanded by this repertoire.... This is the stuff eighteenth-century writers used to rave about... Such artistic integrity and completeness set Podles apart... Seat belts suggested. -- Opera News

...the Polish artist is that extremely rare phenomenon - a genuine contralto of luxuriant tone and bottomless resources. ... a true bel canto expert. It's hard even to imagine a voice of this weight scaling the heights and depths of Handel coloratura with such nonchalance, and it's even more amazing to hear it on this disc... incredible agility, seamless breath control and almost terrifying

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authority. --- San Francisco Examiner

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