## Abel - Music for Flute and Strings (2012)



Flute Concerto No. 5 in G Major 1.1. Allegro 06:32 2.II. Adagio 04:26 3.III. Presto 05:29 Flute Sonata in C Major, Op. 6, No. 1

4.I. Adagio 03:03 5.II. Allegro 03:18 6.III. Vivace 03:00

Trio Sonata in G Major, Op. 3, No. 1

7.I. Vivace 05:09 8.II. Adagio ma non troppo 03:05 9.III. Minuetto 02:14

Flute Sonata in E Minor, Op. 6, No. 3

10.I. Adagio 02:38 11.II. Allegro 03:39 12.III. Vivace 03:12

Flute Concerto No. 2 in E Minor

13.I. Allegro 06:11 14.II. Adagio ma non troppo 05:22 15.III. Allegro 04:54

Symphony No. 1 in C Major, Op. 7

16.I. Allegro assai 04:18 17.II. Andantino 04:24 18.III. Allegro 02:02

Georgia Browne - flute Nordic Affect

Although Carl Friedrich Abel (1723-87) is known as one of the last and greatest virtuosos of the viola da gamba, his instrument declined in popularity towards the end of the 18th century, leading him to compose for other instruments; some of his most successful results can be heard in the music recorded on this album.

Abel's ability to compose particularly fine music for the flute can be traced back his time working at the Dresden court, which possessed one of the greatest orchestras of the era. Among the musicians working there were the flautists Buffardin and Quantz - the latter a prolific composer of flute concertos and sonatas for Frederick the Great, a notable patron of the arts. It is likely that Abel himself was a skilled flautist, and the instrument's popularity at the time created a great demand for new compositions.

The works featured on this album are less well known than Abel's music for viola da gamba,

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and are performed less often. However, they provide an insight into 18th century music's transition from Baroque complexity to the melody-driven Classical style, and are illuminated through performances by flute soloist Georgia Browne and the ensemble Nordic Affect, specialists in historical performance. ---chandos.net

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