Written by bluesever Friday, 13 August 2010 10:08 - Last Updated Tuesday, 04 May 2021 16:17

Carl Friedrich Abel - The Drexel Manuscript 2008



Suite in D Major 1 Prélude 1:40 2 Allegro 2:10 3 Vivace 3:14 4 Andante 4:48 5 Allegro 3:40 6 Adagio 3:19 7 Tempo Di Minuetto 3:07 8 Aria 1:05 9 Tempo Di Minuet 2:35 10 Minuetto 1:35 Suite In D Minor 11 Arpeggiata 2:03 12 Minuetto 2:22 13 Allegro 4:28 14 Adagio 5:37 15 Allegro 3:58 16 Tempo Di Minuet 3:22 Suite In D Major

17 Prélude 0:54 18 Allegro 1:59 19 Allegro 2:09 20 Aria con Variazioni 2:49 21 Fuga 3:22 22 Adagio 4:21 23 Tempo Di Minuet 2:41 24 Petit Prélude 0:22 25 Tempo Di Minuet 2:33 26 Minuetto 2:15

Two Pieces In A Major 27 Allegretto 4:43 28 Allegro 2:22 Paolo Pandolfo - viola da gamba

The fame that he enjoyed in his lifetime clearly hasn't served Carl Friedrich Abel well in the two centuries since his death. He was fêted all over Europe both for his supreme skills as a performer of the viola da gamba as well as for the quality of his compositions, and was responsible (along with JC Bach) for setting up arguably the first series of subscription concerts in the history of Western music, the "Bach Abel-Concerts". Even the prodigy that was Mozart benefited from Abel's teachings (and was claimed as the composer of one Abel's own symphonies).

All this was known by keen minds of the time such as Charles Burney, JF Reichardt and Goethe and fortunately also, in the 21st century, by Paolo Pandolfo, who delivers here a scintillating rendition of Abel's ever-inventive music which ranges across Preludes, Adagios and sundry dance forms. Where to place this "late" music for the viola da gamba? Not Baroque and definitely heading in the direction of the classicism of Mozart, Haydn and even Beethoven. Or as Paolo Pandolfo - who adds dabs of his own highly-advanced improvisatory skills here and there - says, "Simply put, it is Music!" --- glossamusic.com

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