La Renaissance Anglaise (2004)



Thomas Weelkes (1575-1623) To Shorten Winter's Sadness 01:47 2 1 Thule. The Period Of Cosmography 03:53 3 Fantasy 01:40 0 Care, Thou Wilt Despatch Me 05:27 5 The Cries Of London 08:47 6 Lachrimae All Laud And Praise 03:11 06:25 Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656) To The Shady Woods 01:27 9 Fantasia No 9 02:39 Oyez! Has Any Found A Lad? 01:55 11 Fantasia No 10 03:07 I Heard A Voice From Heaven 02:52 Pavan 13 04:31 Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625) Ah, Dear Heart 02:36 15 In Nomine A 5 05:18 16 What Is Our Life Pavan Deleroye 01:31 Behold Thou Hast 04:33 17 18 Made My Days 06:08 19 The Secret Sins 04:28 Great King Of 20 Gods 06:07 Deller Consort Jaye Consort of Viols (tracks 3,6,15,17) Ensemble de violes de la Schola Cantorum Basiliensis (tracks 9,11,13)

This CD- 'The English Renaissance'- is a remastering of analogue recordings made over forty years ago. Nevertheless, it is worth having in your collection if you like English choral music of the period just prior to the Commonwealth. Alfred Deller is joined by his consort plus the Jaye Consort of Viols (Weelkes and Gibbons) and the viols of the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis (Tomkins). This is Jacobean music at its best and we get a bit of everything- madrigals, cries of London, anthems and instrumental fantasias. There is excellent cohesion and balance as voices and instruments cope with the complex part-writing of these three composers. I have always had a fondness for the works of Orlando Gibbons- the three verse anthems which conclude the disc must be among the finest of choral writing of the period. They are: 'Behold, Thou hast made my days', 'The Secret Sins' and 'Great King of Gods'. As if any icing were needed on the cake, Gibbons added a beautiful Amen to each of the last two. The CD is accompanied by a useful booklet containing all the libretti (in English and French). --- J. R. M. Bailes, amazon.com

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