

Baroque Divas (2015)

Written by bluesever
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1. *Amor, dover, rispetto Adriano in Siraal* 2. *Eccomi* 3. *Pallido il sole Artaserse* 4. *Ma fille ... Jupiter, lance ta foudre! Iphigénie en Aulide* 5. *Vedrò con mio diletto Giustino* 6. *Solca il mar e nel periglio Tigrane* 7. *Fra quest ombre Solimano1* 8. *Spera che questo cor Astianatte* 9. *Le belle immagini d un dolce amore Paride ed Elena1* 10. *Ti calpesto, o crudo amore Astianatte* 11. *Al torrente che ruina Siroe re di Persia* 12. *Ti parli nel seno speranza ed amore Siface* 13. *Daranno all ira mia Euristeo* Mary-Ellen Nesi, Romina Basso, Sonia Prina, Vivica Genaux Armonia Atenea George Petrou - conductor

The history of opera is inseparably linked with the biographies of singers; audiences have always been fascinated by both musical prowess and behind the scenes goings-on.

The battle for prestige and fame was heated and passionate in the Baroque era, with legendary rivalries. Fiercely competitive, Cuzzoni and Bordoni were among the most acclaimed divas of the age, resorting to fisticuffs on stage.

Present-day prima donnas Genaux, Prina, Nesi and Basso now follow in the footsteps of their fervid predecessors, presenting on disc a tongue-in-cheek survey of standout arias for mezzo soprano and contralto.

Three star mezzos and a magnificent top contralto are accompanied by the superb Greek orchestra Armonia Atenea under conductor George Petrou, winner of Germany's prestigious ECHO Klassik Prize.

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A stunning recital, bringing to life the rich heritage of Baroque opera the acme of musical enjoyment with the entertaining element of cultic stardom. ---Editorial Reviews, amazon.com

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