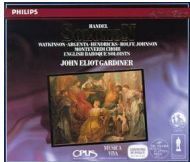


G. F. Handel - Solomon (Gardiner) [1985]

Written by bluesever

Monday, 30 August 2010 16:16 - Last Updated Friday, 20 December 2013 21:40

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CD1 1. Solomon HWV 67 - Overture English Baroque Soloists 5:09 2. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Your harps and cymbals" Monteverdi Choir 3:17 3. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Praise ye the Lord " Stephen Varcoe 4:46 4. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " With pious heart " Monteverdi Choir 4:40 5. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Almighty Power " Carolyn Watkinson 2:57 6. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Imperial Solomon" - " Sacred rapture " Anthony Rolfe Johnson 4:49 7. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Throughout the land " Monteverdi Choir 3:29 8. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Bless'd be the Lord " - " What though I trace " Carolyn Watkinson 7:00 9. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " And see my Queen " Carolyn Watkinson 0:44 10. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Bless'd the day " Nancy Argenta 4:45 11. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " Thou fair inhabitant" - "Welcome as the dawn of day" Carolyn Watkinson 3:58 12. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " My blooming fair" - " Haste, haste " Carolyn Watkinson 3:22 13. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " When thou art absent" - " With thee th'unshelter " Nancy Argenta 2:21 14. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 1 - " May no rash intruder " Monteverdi Choir 3:16 15. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " From the censer " Monteverdi Choir 5:10 16. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " Prais'd be the Lord" - " When the sun " Carolyn Watkinson 5:10 17. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " Great prince " - " Thrice bless'd " Stephen Varcoe 3:41

CD2 1. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " My sovereign liege " Carolyn Watkinson 1:53 2. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " Thou son of David " - " Words are weak " Joan Rodgers 5:35 3. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " What says the other " - " Thy sentence, great king" Della Jones 3:28 4. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " Withhold the executing hand" - " Can I see my infant gor'd" Joan Rodgers 4:23 5. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " Israel' attend " Carolyn Watkinson 1:18 6. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " Thrice bless'd be the king " Joan Rodgers 3:58 7. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " From the east unto the west " Monteverdi Choir 2:28 8. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " No more shall armed bands" - " Beneath the vine " Joan Rodgers 6:23 9. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 2 - " Swell, swell the full chorus " Monteverdi Choir 2:43 10. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba English Baroque Soloists 3:01 11. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " From Arabia's spicy shores " Barbara Hendricks 1:25 12. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Sweep, sweep the string" - " Music, spread thy voice Carolyn Watkinson 3:34 13. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Now a diffrent measure" - " Shake the dome " Carolyn Watkinson 1:46 14. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Then at once from rage" - " Draw the tear " Carolyn Watkinson 3:20 15. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Next the tortur'd soul" - " Thus rolling surges rises " Carolyn Watkinson 3:39 16. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Thy harmony's divine " Barbara Hendricks 0:58 17. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Thrice happy king " - " Golden columns " Anthony Rolfe Johnson 3:58 18. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " May peace in Salem ever dwell" - " Will the sun for- get to streak " Barbara Hendricks

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5:54 19. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Adieu, fair queen" - " Ev'ry joy that wisdom knows"
Barbara Hendricks 3:01 20. Solomon HWV 67 / Act 3 - " Praise the Lord " Monteverdi Choir
4:39 Anthony Rolfe Johnson (Tenor)
Carolyn Watkinson (Alto) Nancy Argenta (Soprano), Barbara Hendricks (Soprano) Joan
Rodgers (Mezzo Soprano) Stephen Varcoe (Bass), Della Jones (Mezzo Soprano) English
Baroque Soloists, Monteverdi Choir John Eliot Gardiner - conductor

Acts I and III of this oratorio are sumptuous pageants: Solomon on the throne with his adoring Queen; Solomon receives the Queen of Sheba. In between, Act II's depiction of Solomon's judgment (over the baby) is one of the finest dramatic scenes Handel wrote in any context. The First Harlot's fear, desperation, and gratitude, the Second Harlot's grief-crazed jealousy, Solomon's serene wisdom--all are smashingly portrayed by Handel and by Rodgers, Jones and Watkinson. Argenta's Queen is a girlish delight; the regal Hendricks as Sheba sounds quite comfortable among these Baroque specialists; Rolfe Johnson and Varcoe have two splendid arias each. The choir and orchestra--whether in the amorous "Nightingale" chorus, the sequence of pictorial numbers in Act III, or the stunning double choruses throughout--are magnificent. ---Matthew Westphal, amazon.com

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