Written by bluesever Wednesday, 11 March 2015 17:12 - Last Updated Wednesday, 11 March 2015 21:15

Heinrich Schutz - Lamenti Et Concerti (1996)



1. Freue dich des Weiges deiner Jugend a9, SWV 435 2. Weib, was weinest du (Dialogo per la Pascua) a4, SWV 443 3. In lectulo per noctes (prima pars) a5, SWV 272 4. Invenerunt me custodes civitatis (secunda pars), SWV 273 5. Anima mea liquefacta est (prima pars) a4, SWV 263 6. Adiuro vos, Filiae Hierusalem (secunda pars), SWV 264 7. Wohl dem, der ein tugendsam Weib hat a8, SWV 20 8. Ich beschwöre euch, ihr Töchter zu Jerusalem (Dialogo) a7, SWV 339 9. Veni dilecte mi a6, SWV 174 10. Haus und Güter erbet man von seinen Eltern a11, SWV 21 Musicalische Compagney (Ensemble)

"The Musicalische Compagney tackle this imaginative selection with enthusiasm. "... The recording is clean and efficient, and the accoustic, which is richly but not overpoweringly vibrant, is appropriate." --- Gramophone

During his long life Heinrich Schütz produced many pieces of music which introduced new techniques and idioms into Germany, while promoting the use of the German language as a medium for music of all sorts. As such he was one of the first composers and he exerted considerable influence over later generations. He did most of this as Kapellmeister to the Elector of Saxony in Dresden. Approximately 500 pieces by Schütz survive, though many more are known to be lost; they are overwhelmingly sacred in character and were mainly published in a number of large collections, of which some of the main ones are the Madrigals (1611), Psalms of David (1619), Cantiones Sacrae (1625), Symphoniæ Sacæ I, II and III (1629, 1647 and 1650), Kleine Geistliche Konzerte I and II (1636 and 1638) and the Geistliche Chormusik (1648).

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During two stays in Venice (1609-13 and 1629) Schütz absorbed many of the developments taking place in Italy, which he put to use subsequently in his works. For example the Psalms of David started his polychoral settings of (predominantly) psalms, while the Cantiones Sacrae and Symphoniæ Sacæ illustrate his successive adaptations of the monodic style to German needs. In contrast to these the Geistliche Chormusik contains 29 German polyphonic motets in a more traditional idiom. During the thirty years' war (1618-1648), Schütz' circumstances worsened dramatically particularly after 1630, which led to him travelling to a number of other courts as well as Denmark. During these years he wrote pieces for reduced forces, reflecting hard times, published in the Kleine Geistliche Konzerte I and II and Symphoniæ Sacæ II. After the end of the war he repeatedly petitioned for retirement, which was granted eventually. Of miscellaneous later works, the three passions (St John, Luke and Matthew) and the Christmas story were notable. Schütz made little use of chorales in his compositions, and no instrumental music by him survives. Of some dramatic works known to have been written, none survive. --- medieval.org

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