

Baroque Christmas Concertos - Trevor Pinnock (1991)

Written by bluesever

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MARC-ANTOINE CHARPENTIER (1643-1704) Noël sur instruments, H 531, 534 1. *Vous qui desirez sans fin* 2. *A la venue de Noël* 3. *Or nous dites, Marie* 4. *Ou s'en vont ces gais bergers?*

JOHANN MELCHIOR MOLTER (1695-1765) Concerto pastorale in G major

5. *Larghetto. Allegro e forte (Larghetto)* 6. *Aria 2: Lento e sempre piano*

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741) Concerto for 2 Trumpets in C major, RV 537

7. *Allegro* 8. *Largo* 9. [*Allegro*]

GIUSEPPE SAMMARTINI (1695-1750)

10. *Pastorale in G major from Concerto grosso op. 6 Andante sostenuto*

GEORG PHILIPP TELEMANN (1681-1767) Concerto polonois in G major

11. *Dolce* 12. *Allegro* 13. *Largo* 14. *Allegro*

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL (1685-1759) Concerto a due cori in B flat major, HWV 332

15. *Ouverture* 16. *Allegro ma non troppo* 17. *Allegro* 18. *Largo* 19. *A tempo ordinario* 20. *Alla breve moderato* 21. *Minuet*

ARCANGELO CORELLI (1653-1713) Concerto grosso in G major, op. 6 no. 8 ("Christmas Concerto")

22. *Vivace Grave. Arcate, sostenuto e come sta* 23. *Allegro* 24. *Adagio - Allegro - Adagio* 25. *Vivace* 26. *Allegro* 27. *Largo. Pastorale ad libitum*

The English Concert Trevor Pinnock - conductor

For people who just can't bear to listen to another Christmas carol, this is the album. Completely instrumental, this is early music written with Christmas in mind, but it is in no way recognizable as Christmas music. These little heard pieces are brilliantly conducted and performed (as always) by Trevor Pinnock and the English Concert. I heard tracks 5 & 6 on the radio a few weeks before Christmas, when my spirits were suffering an uncharacteristic low, and found myself so completely moved by the beauty them, I had to have the CD. I didn't know what the other pieces would be like, but they all turned out to be perfection. Each selection is just the right amount of colour and flourish, moving from lovely largos to vivid vivaces without ever leaving the listener reaching to turn the volume down or off. I found the entire "1 hour plus" album thoroughly uplifting and easy to get lost in. And best of all, I finally have an album that

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expresses musically how I feel about Christmas, that doesn't irritate anyone (including me). All that and a great Amazon price. What more can you ask?! ---The Daily Prophet, amazon.com

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