

**Various****Magnificat: International Chamber Music Fest. 2000**
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TRACKLISTING

Magnificat BWV 243 (first movement)(JS Bach) - Schola Cantorum, Norther Chamber Orchestra
 Schön Rosmarin (F Kreisler) - Takako Nishizaki, Jenó Jandó
 Let the Bright Seraphim (from Samson)(GF Handel) - Niklas Eklund, Susanne Ryden, London Baroque
 Symph.in C minor, Ben 127 (First Movt)(IJ Pleyel) - Capella Istropolitana, Uwe Grodd
 Overture,Recits Italiens (d'Alcidiane)(JB Lully) - Aradia Baroque Ensemble, K Mallon, M Enid Haines
 Air pour les matelots jouans des Trompettes marine - Aradia Baroque Ensemble, K Mallon, M Enid Haines
 Violin Sonata No.3 (Second Movement)(EH Grieg) - Takako Nishizaki, Jenó Jandó
 Sinfonia in C Comista (First Movement)(JB Vanhal) - Nicolaus Esterházy Sinfonia, Uwe Grodd
 Trumpet Concerto No.1 in D (GP Telemann) - Drottningholm Baroque Ensemble, Niklas Eklund
 Lascia ch'io pianga (Rinaldo)(GF Handel) - Susanne Ryden, London Baroque
 Sinfonia in B flat Op.3 No.4 (First Movt)(JC Bach) - Camerata Budapest, Hanspeter Gmür
 Toccata and Fugue in D minor BWV565 (JS Bach) - Wolfgang Rubsam

REVIEWS - RELEASE NOTES - LINKS

In its short but distinguished history, the International Chamber Music Festival which takes place annually in Auckland and Napier under the patronage of Klaus Heymann, the founder of Naxos, has become one of the most important events in New Zealand's musical calendar. The Festival's Artistic Director, Uwe Grodd, asserts that its object remains fundamentally simple: 'to bring together top artists from New Zealand and overseas in a series of fresh, stimulating and innovative concerts'.

The secret of a dynamic festival lies in the ability of its planners to introduce new and exciting elements while building on past successes. In 2000 these included the first appearance of an original instrument orchestra at the Festival - the sensational Aradia Baroque Orchestra from Canada; the introduction of a choral element with Voices New Zealand, arguably the finest choir in the world, and, in the final concert, a glimpse into the captivating world of French Baroque ballet.

Once again the performance of newly discovered and published 18th-century works played an important part in the Festival. The first concert opened with Ignaz Pleyel's celebrated Sinfonia Concertante in F, a work which created such a sensation at its premiere in London in 1792 that Johann Peter Salomon, the impresario who had brought Haydn to London, immediately urged him to write a similar work for his own concert series (the great Sinfonia Concertante in B flat, Hob.I.105 which was also heard in the same concert).

Two other major 'new' works were performed in the Festival; Johann Baptist Vanhal's *Missa Pastorale* in G and Mass in C. All three works were edited by the internationally renowned New Zealand musicologist Dr Allan Badley and published by the Wellington-based publishing house Artaria Editions. Founded in 1995 by Allan Badley and Klaus Heymann, Artaria Editions is recognised world-wide as one of the most important publishers of rare 18th-century repertoire. The fruit of this partnership is a steady stream of critically acclaimed recordings which are delighting classical music lovers everywhere. A recent recording of Vanhal symphonies, conducted by Uwe Grodd, won the 'Best 18th-century Orchestral Recording' category at the prestigious Cannes Classical Awards in January 2000.

The music featured on this souvenir disc reflects not only the strong Baroque flavour of the 2000 Festival - and in particular, the splendid final concert at which members of the audience wined and dined like kings - but also a number of the artists who played so magnificently. Niklas Eklund, one of the finest exponents of the Baroque trumpet, features in a

concerto by Telemann and in 'Let the Bright Seraphim' from Handel's oratorio, *Samson*. Takako Nishizaki is represented by her recording of the exquisite second movement of Grieg's third Violin Sonata and one of Fritz Kreisler's most popular encores, *Sch"n Rosmarin*. Kevin Mallon and the Aradia Baroque Ensemble also feature on this recording playing some startling ballet music by Jean-Baptiste Lully. Excerpts from Uwe Grodd's award-winning Vanhal recording and his recently released premiere recordings of symphonies by Pleyel pay tribute to the Artistic Director of this remarkable festival and his now famous collaboration with Artaria Editions. Last but not least, however, the recording begins and ends with the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, 'God's musician on Earth', who died on the 28th July 250 years ago. That night the Festival artists performed two of his most popular works; *Brandenburg Concerto No 2* and the *Magnificat*.

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