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GEORG FRIEDRICH HAENDEL

Le Messie, oratorio (Londres version 1750)

The Choir of Clare College, Freiburger Barockorchester, René Jacobs

2h18 2 CD HMC901928.29 Octobre 2006

Les paradoxes du *Messie*.

Après une interprétation magistrale du très théâtral *Saül* (*Gramophone Editor's Choice*, *Choc du Monde de la Musique*, etc.), René Jacobs se tourne vers *Le Messie*, dans sa version avec deux altos de 1750. Haendel apporta de multiples remaniements à la distribution en fonction des solistes qu'il avait à disposition en dirigeant annuellement l'ouvrage à Londres... Mais cette reconnaissance intervint bien après la création triomphale de Dublin, le 13 avril 1742 : car pour ce qui est du public londonien, *Messiah* avait dû affronter une cabale d'autant plus injustifiée que ce *Messie* s'abstenait de toute théâtralisation autour du personnage et de la Passion du Christ : l'anti-*Saül* en quelque sorte. On connaît la suite de l'histoire !



Artistes

- Kerstin Avemo
Soprano
- Patricia Bardon
Alto
- Lawrence Zazzo
Contre-ténor
- Kobie van Rensburg
Ténor
- Neal Davies
Baryton-basse
- Choir of Clare College,
Cambridge
- Freiburger Barockorchester
- René Jacobs
Direction

Compositeurs

- Georg Friedrich Haendel

Programme

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL [1685-1759]

MESSIAH

An Oratorio HWV 56 after Biblical sources collected by Charles Jennens
1750 version (conducted by the composer)

· Part I

1. "Sinfony" (2'59)

- 2. **Accompagnato** (tenor) *Comfort ye, my people, saith your God* (2'59)
- 3. **Air** (tenor) *Every valley shall be exalted* (3'01)
- 4. **Chorus** *And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed* (2'34)
- 5. **Accompagnato** (bass) *Thus saith the Lord of Hosts* (1'19)
- 6. **Air** (countertenor) *But who may abide the day of His coming?* (3'50)
- 7. **Chorus** *And He shall purify the sons of Levi* (2'23)
- 8. **Recitative** (alto) *Behold, a virgin shall conceive*
- 9. **Air** (alto & **Chorus**) *O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise* (5'27)
- 10. **Accompagnato** (bass) *For behold, darkness shall cover the earth* (2'18)
- 11. **Air** (bass) *The people that walked in darkness* (3'41)
- 12. **Chorus** *For unto us a child is born* (3'57)
- 13. **Sinfonia pastorale** (Pifa)
- 14a. **Recitative** (soprano) *There were shepherds abiding in the field*
- 14b. **Accompagnato** (soprano) *And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them*
- 15. **Recitative** (soprano) *And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for behold*
- 16. **Accompagnato** (soprano) *And suddenly there was with the angel* (4'41)
- **Part II**
- 17. **Chorus** *Glory to God in the highest* (2'04)
- 18. **Air** (soprano) *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion* (4'33)
- 19. **Recitative** (alto) *Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened*
- 20. **Air** (alto & countertenor) *He shall feed His flock like a shepherd* (4'58)
- 21. **Chorus** *His yoke is easy, and His burthen is light* (2'20)
- 22. **Chorus** *Behold the lamb of God* (4'24)
- 23. **Air** (alto) *He was despised and rejected of men* (10'42)
- 24. **Chorus** *Surely He hath borne our griefs* (1'45)
- 25. **Chorus** *And with His stripes we are healed* (1'42)
- 26. **Chorus** *All we like sheep have gone astray* (3'50)

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- 27. **Accompagnato** (tenor) *All they that see Him laugh Him to scorn* (0'36)
- 28. **Chorus** *He trusted in God that He would deliver Him* (2'11)
- 29. **Accompagnato** (tenor) *Thy rebuke hath broken His heart* (1'30)
- 30. **Arioso** (tenor) *Behold and see if there be any sorrow* (1'21)
- 31. **Accompagnato** (soprano) *He was cut off out of the land of the living*
- 32. **Air** (soprano) *But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell* (2'14)
- 33. **Chorus** *Lift up your heads, O ye gates* (3'03)
- 34. **Recitative** (tenor) *Unto which of the angels said He at any time* (0'14)
- 35. **Chorus** *Let all the angels of God worship Him* (1'23)
- 36. **Air** (countertenor) *Thou art gone up on high* (2'47)
- 37. **Chorus** *The Lord gave the world* (1'09)
- 38. **Air** (countertenor) *How beautiful are the feet of them* (2'40)
- 39. **Chorus** *Their sound is gone out into all lands* (1'24)
- 40. **Air** (bass) *Why do the nations so furiously rage together* (2'49)
- 41. **Chorus** *Let us break their bonds asunder* (1'36)
- 42. **Recitative** (tenor) *He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn*
- 43. **Air** (tenor) *Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron* (1'59)
- 44. **Chorus** *Hallelujah!* (3'56)
- **Part III**
- 45. **Air** (soprano) *I know that my redeemer liveth* (6'02)
- 46. **Chorus** *Since by man came death* (1'57)
- 47. **Accompagnato** (bass) *Behold, I tell you a mystery*
- 48. **Air** (bass) *The trumpet shall sound* (8'36)
- 49. **Recitative** (alto) *Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written*
- 50. **Duet** (alto & tenor) *O Death, where is thy sting?* (1'16)
- 51. **Chorus** *But thanks be to God who giveth us the victory* (2'02)

- 52. **Air** (countertenor) *If God be for us, who can be against us?* (4'19)
- 53. **Chorus** *Worthy is the Lamb that was slain*
- 54. **Chorus** *Amen* (6'51)