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GEORG FRIEDRICH HÄNDEL

Saul

RIAS Kammerchor Berlin, Concerto Köln, René Jacobs

2h30 2 CD HMY2921877.78 August 2015

Ein sehr theatrales Oratorium. Auch wenn Oratorien nicht für Bühnenaufführungen gedacht sind, bildet *Saul* in gewisser Weise eine Ausnahme, stützt es sich doch auf genaue szenische Anweisungen, die schon in den bei den ersten Aufführungen erhältlichen Textbüchern abgedruckt waren. Das englische Publikum konnte sich so eine Art mentales Theater schaffen, wobei es von den hinreißenden musikalischen Schilderungen Händels unterstützt wurde: Man *sieht* beim Hören förmlich Goliaths Schritte, den Lauf des Jordans oder den Wurf von König Sauls Speer...



Künstler

- Henry Waddington
Baß
- Finnur Bjarnason
Tenor
- Michael Slattery
Tenor
- Rosemary Joshua
Sopran
- Emma Bell
Sopran
- Lawrence Zazzo
Countertenor
- Jeremy Ovenden
Tenor
- Gidon Saks
Bariton
- RIAS Kammerchor Berlin
- Concerto Köln
- René Jacobs
Leitung

Komponisten

- George Frideric
Handel

Programm

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL [1685-1759]

SAUL

· **Symphony** Allegro - Larghetto - Allegro - Andante larghetto (8'00)

· **ACT ONE**

Scene I

1. **Chorus** *How excellent Thy name, o Lord* (2'37)
- 2. Air **Soprano** *An infant raised by thy command*
3. Trio **Alto, tenore, basso** *Along the monster atheist strode* (2'08)
- 4. **Soprano, alto, tenore, basso** *The youth inspired by Thee, o Lord*
5. **Chorus** *How excellent Thy name, o Lord* (3'55)
- **Scene II**
6. Recit & 7. Air **Michal** *He comes, he comes! - O God-like youth!*
8. Recitative **Abner, Saul, David** *Behold, o King, the brave, victorious youth* (3'38)
- 9. Air **David** *O king, your favours with delights*
10. Recitative **Jonathan** *Oh early piety!* (5'21)
- 11. Air **Merab** *What abject thoughts a prince can have!*
12. Recitative **Merab** *Yet think, on whom this honour you bestow* (2'13)
- 13. Air **Jonathan** *Birth and fortune I despise!* (4'56)
- 14. Recitative **High Priest** *Go on, illustrious pair!*
15. Air **High Priest** *While yet thy tide of blood runs high* (2'45)
- 16. Recitative **Saul, Merab** *Thou, Merab, first in birth, be first in honour*
17. Air **Merab** *My soul rejects the thought with scorn*
18. Air **Michal** *See, with what a scornful air*
19. Air **Michal** *Ah, lovely youth, wast thou designed* (3'19)
- 20. **Symphony** *Andante allegro*
21. Recitative **Michal** *Already see the daughters of the land*
- Scene III**
22. **Chorus** *Welcome, welcome, mighty king!* (2'47)
- 23. Accompagnato **Saul** *What do I hear?*
24. **Chorus** *David his ten thousands slew*
25. Accompagnato **Saul** *To him ten thousands*
26. Air **Saul** *With rage I shall start burst his praises to hear* (2'17)
- **Scene IV**
27. Recitative **Jonathan, Michal** *Imprudent women!*
28. Air **Michal** *Fell rage and black despair possessed* (2'58)
- 29. Recitative **High Priest** *This but the smallest part of Harmony*
30. Accompagnato **High Priest** *By thee this universal frame* (2'47)
- **Scene V**
31. Recitative **Abner** *Racked with infernal pains*
32. Air **David** *O Lord, whose mercies numberless* (3'51)
- 33. **Symphony** *Largo*
34. Recitative **Jonathan** *'Tis all in vain, his fury still continues* (2'14)
- 35. Air **Saul** *A serpent, in my bosom warmed*
36. Recitative **Saul** *Has he escaped my rage?* (2'22)
- 37. Air **Merab** *Capricious man* (3'38)
- **Scene VI**
38. Accompagnato **Jonathan** *O filial piety!*
39. Air **Jonathan** *No, cruel father, no!* (3'00)
- 40. Air **High Priest** *O Lord, whose providence*
41. **Chorus** *Preserve him for the glory of Thy name* (3'37)
- **ACT TWO**
- Scene I**
42. **Chorus** *Envy! Eldest born of hell!* (2'47)
- **Scene II**

43. Recitative **Jonathan** *Ah! dearest friend*

44. Air **Jonathan** *But sooner Jordan' stream, I swear* (2'36)

· 45. Recitative **David, Jonathan** *Oh strange vicissitude!*

46. Air **David** *Such haughty beauties rather move* (5'07)

SAUL

· 47. Recitative **Jonathan** *My father comes*

Scene III

48. Recitative **Saul, Jonathan** *Hast thou obeyed my orders* (0'42)

· 49. Air **Jonathan** *Sin not, o king, against the youth*

50. Air **Saul** *As great Jehovah lives*

51. Air **Jonathan** *From cities stormed, and battles won* (4'54)

· **Scene IV**

52. Recitative **Jonathan, Saul** *Appear, my friend*

53. Air **David** *Your words, o king, my loyal heart*

54. Recitative **Saul** *Yes, he shall wed my daughter!* (1'49)

· **Scene V**

55. Recitative **Michal** *A father's will has authorised my love*

56. Duet **Michal, David** *O fairest of ten thousand fair*

57. **Chorus** *Is there a man* (4'18)

· 58. **Symphony** Largo - Allegro (4'35)

· **Scene VI**

59. Recitative **David** *Thy father is as cruel*

60. Duet **David, Michal** *At persecution I can laugh* (1'37)

· **Scene VII**

61. Recitative **Michal, Doeg** *Whom dost thou seek*

62. Air **Michal** *No, no let the guilty tremble* (2'14)

· **Scene VIII**

63. Recitative **Merab** *Mean as he was, he is my brother now*

64. Air **Merab** *Author of peace, who canst controul* (3'32)

· **Scene IX**

65. **Symphony** Allegro (1'06)

· 66. Accompagnato **Saul** *The time at length is come*

Scene X

67. Recitative **Saul, Jonathan** *Where is the son of Jesse?* (1'29)

· 68. **Chorus** *Oh fatal consequence of Rage* (4'46)

· **ACT THREE**

Scene I

69. Accompagnato **Saul** *Wretch that I am*

70. Recit - Accompagnato **Saul** *'Tis said, here lives a woman* (3'15)

· **Scene II**

71. Recitative **Witch, Saul** *With me what would'st thou*

72. Air **Witch of Endor** *Infernal spirits* (2'50)

· **Scene III**

73. Accompagnato **Samuel, Saul** *Why hast thou forced me from the realms of peace* (2'42)

· 74. **Symphony** Allegro (0'33)

· **Scene IV**

75. Recitative **David, Amalekite** *Whence comest thou?*

76. Air **David** *Impious wretch, of race accurst!* (2'52)

· 77. **March** Grave (3'03)

· **Scene V**

78. **Chorus** *Mourn, Israel (3'27)*

· 79. Air **High Priest** *Oh let it not in Gath be heard (2'07)*

· 80. Air **Merab** *From this unhappy day (2'39)*

· 81. Air **David** *Brave Jonathan is bow never drew*

82. **Chorus** *Eagles were not so swift as they (2'09)*

· 83. Air **Michal** *In sweetest harmony they lived!*

84. Solo **David and Chorus** *O fatal day!*

85. Recitative **Abner** *Ye men of Judah, weep no more! (9'06)*

· 86. **Chorus** *Gird on thy sword, thou man of might (5'01)*