



3149020187753

GEORG FRIEDRICH HAENDEL

## Saul, oratorio en trois actes (Londres, 1739)

RIAS Kammerchor Berlin, Concerto Köln, René Jacobs

2h30 2 CD HMY2921877.78 Août 2015

**Un oratorio paradoxalement très... théâtral.** Si les oratorios ne sont pas destinés à être représentés, ce *Saul* fait en quelque sorte figure d'exception : il s'appuie sur des indications scéniques précises, imprimées sur les livrets diffusés lors des représentations. Le public anglais pouvait ainsi se construire une sorte de théâtre mental, aidé en cela par les fulgurantes descriptions musicales de Haendel : à l'écoute, on *voit* la démarche de Goliath, le cours du Jourdain ou le lancer du javelot du roi Saül...



### Artistes

- Henry Waddington  
Basse
- Finnur Bjarnason  
Ténor
- Michael Slattery  
Ténor
- Rosemary Joshua  
Soprano
- Emma Bell  
Soprano
- Lawrence Zazzo  
Contre-ténor
- Jeremy Ovenden  
Ténor
- Gidon Saks  
Baryton
- RIAS Kammerchor Berlin
- Concerto Köln
- René Jacobs  
Direction

### Compositeurs

- George Frideric  
Handel

### Programme

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)