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HENRY PURCELL

# Odes for the Feast Day of Saint Cecilia

Collegium Vocale Gent, Philippe Herreweghe

1h12 Digital HMC901643 May 1998

## Sumptuous musical feasts!

Two Odes composed for the Feast Day of Saint Cecilia in 1683 and 1692; two very different ways of treating the glorification of an art form in which Purcell was the master. *Welcome to all the pleasures* calls for a relatively small formation and seems to have been conceived entirely in the Italian style (if not for Italian use). Eight years later, *Hail! bright Caecilia* turned out to be a fabulous hymn to music, as rich and varied as the act of an opera – a veritable Baroque fireworks which is among Purcell's greatest achievements.



## Artists

- Susan Hamilton  
Soprano
- Siri Thornhill  
Soprano
- Robin Blaze  
Countertenor
- Martin van der Zeijst  
Countertenor
- Mark Padmore  
Tenor
- Jonathan Arnold  
Bass
- Jonathan Brown  
Bass
- Peter Harvey  
Bass
- Collegium Vocale Gent  
Vocal ensemble
- Philippe Herreweghe  
Conductor

## Composers

- Henry Purcell

## Contents

### Hail! bright Cecilia!

Vivat ! Radieuse Cécile, vivat !

*Heil Dir, herrliche Cäcilie, heil!*

· Symphony *Maestoso - Canzona. Allegro - Adagio - Allegro - Grave* (9'42)

· Hail! bright Cecilia! (3'47)

· Hark! hark! Each Tree (4'10)

· 'Tis Nature's Voice (4'20)

- Soul of the World! (2'20)
- Thou tun'st this World (5'14)
- With that sublime Celestial Lay (3'15)
- Wondrous Machine! (2'27)
- The airy Violin (1'38)
- In vain the Am'rous flute (6'09)
- The fife and all the Harmony of War (3'18)
- Let these among themselves contest (3'10)
- Hail! bright Cecilia! (4'31)

**Welcome to all the pleasures**

Bienvenue à tous les plaisirs

*Willkommen, ihr Freuden alle*

- Symphony (3'42)
- Welcome to all the pleasures (1'49)
- Here the deities approve (4'36)
- While joys celestial (1'48)
- Then lift up your voices (2'09)
- Beauty thou scene of love (3'15)
- In a consort of voices (1'13)