Compatible with existing CD players, this SACD contains three separate versions of the same programme: 5.1 multichannel surround sound mastered in DSD • 2-channel stereo mastered in DSD • CD standard stereo

Brimming with exhilarating dance tunes and colourful sonorities, Handel's *Water Music* and *Music for the Royal Fireworks* are his two most popular orchestral works. They were composed, respectively, for royal water parties on the River Thames in August 1715 and July 1717, and to celebrate the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1749, with a fireworks display in Green Park, London. While the July 1717 entertainment was an unqualified success – the King "caused it to be plaid three times in going and returning" – the *Royal Fireworks* of 1749 was "ill-conducted" and a pyrotechnic disaster, with one of the pavilions catching fire! This is the first recording of *Music for the Royal Fireworks* to include a transverse flute, as indicated in the original manuscript. It is used to especially beautiful effect in *La Paix* (20).

NAXOS

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**Playing Time
70:52**

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George Frideric
HANDEL
(1685–1759)

Water Music	**50:46**
1-8 **Suite No. 1 in F major, HWV 348**	**29:24**
9-13 **Suite No. 2 in D major, HWV 349**	**10:29**
14-17 **Suite No. 3 in G major, HWV 350**	**10:52**
18-22 **Music for the Royal Fireworks, HWV 351**	**20:06**

Aradia Ensemble • Kevin Mallon

Recorded in St Anne's Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from 5th to 8th January, 2005
Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver • Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver
Please see the booklet for a complete track list
Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson • Cover Picture: *A View of the Fireworks and Illuminations at his grace the Duke of Richmond's at Whitehall and on the River Thames, on Monday* by English School, (18th century) (Private Collection / Bridgeman Art Library)

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