



THE VERY BEST OF HANDEL

*"He is the greatest composer that ever lived.
I would uncover my head and kneel before his tomb"*

(Beethoven on Handel)

Universally considered the greatest composer of his time by artists and public alike, Handel's ceremonial music, sacred music, vocal works and oratorios have remained popular with musicians and audiences ever since. This 2 CD cornucopia sheds light on all that and more, including *Zadok the Priest* (sung at every British Coronation since 1727), *Water Music*, *Fireworks Music* and the finest arias and extracts from his choral works and operas. The *Messiah* has been plundered by film makers for decades, while *Sarabande* (CD2, track 3) featured on a recent global Levi Jeans television commercial.

Compact Disc 1

- 1-3** *Zadok the Priest* **4** *Fireworks Music: La paix* **5** *Concerto Grosso in B minor: Larghetto*
6 *The Messiah: I know that my redeemer liveth* **7** *Judas Maccabeus: See here the conqu'ring hero comes*
8 *Water Music: Overture* **9** *Rinaldo: Lascia ch'io pianga* **10** *Harpisichord Suite No. 5: Air and Variations 'Harmonious Blacksmith'*
11 *Ode for Queen Anne's birthday: Eternal Source of Light Divine* **12** *Fireworks Music: Le rejoyssance*
13 *Concerto Grosso in D major: Vivace* **14** *Dixit Dominus: Dixit Dominus* **15** *Saul: Dead March*
16 *Recorder Sonata in A minor: Allegro* **17** *The Messiah: How beautiful are the feet* **18** *Water Music: Allegro - Andante*

Compact Disc 2

- 1** *Solomon: Arrival of the Queen of Sheba* **2** *Ode for St Cecilia's Day: What Passion cannot Music raise*
3 *Oboe Concerto No. 3: Sarabande* **4** *The Messiah: He was despised*
5 *Concerto Grosso in G minor: Larghetto e affettuoso* **6** *Samson: Let the Bright Seraphim*
7 *Organ Concerto 'Cuckoo and Nightingale': Allegro* **8** *Violin Sonata: Larghetto*
9 *Concerto for Two Wind Groups and Strings: A tempo ordinario*
10 *The Messiah: For unto us a child is born* **11** & **12** *Water Music: Air & Alla Hornpipe*
13 *Xerxes: Ombra ma fui* **14** *Concerto Grosso in G major: Allegro*
15 *Dettingen Te Deum: Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day*
16 *Alexander's Feast: Allegro* **17** *The Messiah: Hallelujah*



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