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STEREO
DDD
 PHARMAFARM

Jean-Baptiste
ULLY
 (1632-1687)

Grands Motets, Vol. 2

Le Concert Spirituel

Hervé Niquet


Playing
Time
64:44


Quare fremuerunt

- 1 Symphonie – Quare fremuerunt
- 2 Reges eos in virga ferrea

O Lachrymae

- 3 Symphonie – O Lachrymae
- 4 Exultant caeli

Dies irae

- 5 Symphonie – Dies irae
- 6 Quaerens me, sedisti lassus
- 7 Symphonie – Pie Jesu

De profundis

- 8 Symphonie – De profundis
- 9 Ritournelle – Quia apud te
- 10 Symphonie – Requiem

 13:17
 7:21
 5:56

 18:34
 7:40
 10:53

 15:39
 4:25
 8:30
 2:44

 16:46
 6:46
 7:10
 2:50

The Composer

By the age of twenty-one Jean-Baptiste Lully had become Composer of the King's Instrumental Music and for the next thirty years he almost completely dominated music life at the court and in French theatres, winning in 1672 the exclusive right to produce opera. His output ranged from Church music to *ballets de cour* and notable collaborations with Molière in the form of *comédies-ballets* such as *Le bourgeois gentilhomme*. He died working, stabbing himself in the foot with his conducting cane whilst directing a performance of his *Te Deum*.

The Music

In these works, written for the Chapel Royal, Lully is inspired to paint a whole sweep of emotions, at once melancholy, plaintive, sweet, tragic, suffering, noble and victorious. Observe his mastery of colour. Listen to how choral and orchestral textures, now in five, now in ten parts, change with the rhythm of the text. Note how subtle touches of orchestral colour highlight the meaning of a word or the sweetness of a modulation.

Recorded at IRCAM, Paris,
 from 14th to 17th April, 1994.

Artistic Direction: Dominique Dalgremont

Producer and Engineer: Manuel Mohino, Musica Numéris

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NAXOS

Cover Painting: Louis XIV, Roi de France et de Navarre
 d'après Geuslin le père (Photo RMN/Lewandowski)

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