

NAXOS

DDD

8.555295

Playing Time
70:56

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Music Notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch
Notice en français
Made in E.C.

The first glass instrument played with wet fingers was invented in 1743 by an Irishman, Richard Puckeridge, but it was Benjamin Franklin who went on to invent a variant of it, the glass harmonica, which produced similar sounds but could be mechanically controlled. The instrument aroused passionate responses during its hey-day, and many composers of the late eighteenth century composed music for the instrument. The most well-known were Mozart and Beethoven, both of whom wrote for it towards the end of their lives. Gaetano Donizetti was one of the last to compose for the glass harmonica before its revival in the late twentieth century, when he originally featured it as the accompanying instrument to Lucia's mad scene in his opera *Lucia di Lammermoor*, to startling effect. This disc concludes with Thomas Bloch's own haunting *Sancta Maria*, which includes 4 multitracked vocal parts all performed by a male soprano.

GLASS HARMONICA

Thomas Bloch

SCHULZ		RÖLLIG	
1 Largo	3:35	Kleine Tonstücke	3:15
HOLT SOMBACH		10 Grave	1:49
2 Adagio	5:36	11 Commodetto	1:27
REICHARDT		APELL	
3 Rondeau	6:35	12 Trionfo della musica, cantata	4:51
NAUMANN		HOLT SOMBACH	
Sonata No. 3	3:55	1ère Suite:	3:28
4 Récit	1:35	13 Fantaisie	0:46
5 Andantino amoroso	2:20	14 Allemande	2:42
MOZART		DONIZETTI	
6 Adagio K.V. 356 (K.V. 617a)	3:07	15 Lucia di Lammermoor:	
Adagio und Rondo K.V. 617	12:09	Mad Scene	15:56
7 Adagio	4:22	HOLT SOMBACH	
8 Rondo	7:46	16 1ère Suite: 2ème Menuet	1:16
BEETHOVEN		BLOCH	
9 Melodram	1:00	17 Sancta Maria	6:11

Tracks 1-16 recorded at ADS (Ivry-sur-Seine)-Auditorium FR3 (Strasbourg), from January to March 1997
track 17 recorded at Labo T (Neuilly Plaisance) in May 1998

Producers: Philippe Avril (tracks 1-16) and Thomas Bloch (track 17) • Music Notes: T. Bloch

Cover image: *Benjamin Franklin playing his glass harmonica* by Alan Foster, 1926 (*Étude Magazine*, Jan. 1927)

A detailed track list can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the booklet.