

After Handel's death in 1759 his assistant, the younger John Christopher Smith, continued the tradition of regular oratorio performances. For some of these occasions he compiled new works, making use of the Handel manuscripts he had inherited. The 1769 oratorio *Gideon*, with a new libretto by Handel's former collaborator Thomas Morell, uses music largely drawn from Handel's work, sacred and secular, with a lesser number of elements by Smith himself. It deals with Gideon's destruction of the idol of Baal, the defeat of the Midianites and the miracle of the fleece.

George Frideric
HANDEL
 (1685-1759)
Gideon

An Oratorio in Three Parts compiled by John Christopher Smith (1712-1795)

Angel / Israelite	Barbara Hannigan
Oreb / Messenger / Israelite	Linda Perillo
Eliakim / Israelite	Nicola Wemyss
Israelite	David Cordier
Gideon	Knut Schoch
Prophet / Joash / Priest of Baal	Stephan MacLeod

Junge Kantorei • Frankfurt Baroque Orchestra
Joachim Carlos Martini

CD 1	75:27	CD 2	76:26
[1-27] Part I	54:13	[1-12] Part II cont.	22:35
[28-38] Part II	21:14	[13-35] Part III	53:51

Recorded live at Kloster Eberbach, Rheingau, Germany, on 8th June, 2003 • Editor: Joachim Carlos Martini

Performed on period instruments • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

Cover Image: *Miracle of Gideon's Fleece, c. 1490 Avignon School*

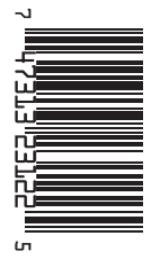
(The Art Archive / Musée du Petit Palais Avignon / Dagli Orti)

NAXOS

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Playing Time
 2:31:52



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 Booklet notes and synopsis in English
 Kommentar und Inhaltsangabe auf Deutsch
 Sung texts included
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