

Universally recognized as one of Handel's finest masterpieces, *Solomon* is the most sensuous of his biblical oratorios. Magnificent, intricate choruses, seven of which are in eight voice parts, alternate with rapturous, intimate love music, as when Solomon, on the completion of his Temple, at the end of Part I, beckons his Queen towards the cedar grove where 'amorous turtles... love beneath the pleasing gloom'. Part II deals with Solomon's wisdom in deciding who is the mother of the new-born baby. Part III, which opens with the ever popular *Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*, portrays the visit of the Queen and her amazement at the splendour of Solomon's court, yet another instance of Handel paying astute homage to his patron, George II.

George Frideric
HANDEL
(1685–1759)
Solomon

Solomon Ewa Wolak
Pharaoh's Daughter, Queen / Second Woman Elisabeth Scholl
Nicaule, Queen of Sheba / First Woman Nicola Wemyss
Zadok / Attendant Knut Schoch
Levite Matthias Vieweg

Junge Kantorei • Frankfurt Baroque Orchestra
Joachim Carlos Martini

CD 1	81:06	CD 2	79:01
1-23 Part I	58:39	1-12 Part II (cont.)	31:52
24-30 Part II	22:27	13-34 Part III	47:09

Recorded live at Kloster Eberbach, Rheingau, Germany, on 30th May, 2004
 Producer: Mark Buecker • Engineers: Joachim Carlos Martini and Andrea Hellbach
 Booklet Notes: Joachim Carlos Martini • Please see the booklet for a detailed track list
 Cover Picture: *King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba* by Adriaen van Stalbeem (1580–1662)
 (Private Collection / Bridgeman Art Library)



8.557574-75

DDD

Playing Time
2:40:07



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