

François-André Danican Philidor pursued successful parallel careers as the composer of over 21 operas and as a chess virtuoso, known not least for his skill in simultaneous blindfold games. His oratorio, *Carmen sæculare*, is a setting of poems by Horace associated with the Roman centennial celebrations of 17 B.C. Written at the instigation of the Italian scholar Giuseppe Baretta, who chose the Latin texts and sought 'a man able to temper alternately the solemnity of church-music with the brilliancy of the theatrical', this majestic, and at times operatic work is coupled with overtures to three of Philidor's popular and brilliant comic operas.



François-André Danican
PHILIDOR
(1726-1795)

ETOILE ★ D'AZUR
HELP WITH ART

CD 1

54:42 CD 2

55:16

1-3 Symphonie No. 27 in G major
(Ouverture: Le maréchal ferrant)* 12:44

Carmen Sæculare (contd.)

38:25

Carmen Sæculare (1788)†

1-15 Pars Quarta

4 Ouverture

16 Le sorcier:

5 Prologus: Odi profanum vulgus

Ouverture in G major*

8:54

6-8 Prima Pars

5:18

9-13 Seconda Pars

17 Tom Jones:

14-16 Tertia Pars

Ouverture in B flat major*

7:58

Veronica Cangemi, Soprano† • Nora Gubisch, Mezzo-soprano†
Donald Litaker, Tenor† • Antonio Abete, Bass†

Coro della Radio Svizzera†

Orchestra della Svizzera Italiana† • Jean-Claude Malgoire†
Prague Chamber Orchestra* • Christian Benda*

A full track listing can be found on page 2 of the booklet

Sung texts can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/557593.htm

A co-production with Radio Della Svizzera Italiana

*Recorded at Studio Domovina, Prague, Czech Republic, on 19th April, 2005

Producer: Jiri Gemrot • Engineer: Karel Soukenik

†Recorded at the Auditorio della RSI, Lugano, Switzerland, on 21st and 22nd January, 1998

Producers: Giuseppe Clericetti and Carlo Piccardi • Engineer: Ulrich Ruscher

Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

Cover painting: *A Dance to the Music of Time* by Nicolas Poussin (1594-1665)

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Playing Time
1:49:58



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