



8.557960-62

DDD

Playing Time
3:09:49

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Booklet notes and synopsis in English
The libretto can be accessed at:
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Handel composed *Hercules* for his 1744-45 oratorio season as the secular foil to one of his most ambitious sacred dramas, *Belshazzar*, hoping to repeat the success of the previous season's *Samson/Semele* pairing. Like *Semele*, *Hercules*, which Handel called 'A Musical Drama', is an English opera in all but name and shares its theme of the destructive power of sexual jealousy. Handel's music is of outstanding quality and the commanding figure of Dejanira – rapturous in her love for her returning hero, distraught at his imagined dalliance with Iöle, eventually mad with despair at the enormity of her misguided actions – is one of his most powerfully drawn female rôles.

George Frideric
HANDEL
(1685–1759)

Hercules

Dejanira, wife of Hercules Nicola Wemyss, Mezzo-Soprano
Iöle, an Oechalian princess Gerlinde Sämman, Soprano
Lichas, a herald Franz Vitzthum, Countertenor
Hyllus, son of Hercules Knut Schoch, Tenor
Hercules / Priest of Jupiter Peter Kooij, Bass
First Oechalian Liselotte Kühn, Soprano
First Trachinian Franz Schneider, Bass

Junge Kantorei • Frankfurt Baroque Orchestra
Joachim Carlos Martini

CD 1	69:29	CD 2	73:22	CD 3	46:58
1-27 Act I	69:29	1-30 Act II	73:22	1-19 Act III	46:58

Includes Free Downloadable Bonus Track available at www.classicsonline.com.
Please see inside booklet for full details.

Recorded live at Kloster Eberbach, Rheingau, Germany, on 4th June, 2006 • Editor: Joachim Carlos Martini
Booklet Notes: Joachim Carlos Martini (English version by Keith Anderson)
Please see the booklet for a detailed track list • Cover Picture: *Hercules Tearing the Burning Robe*, c. 1634
by Francisco de Zurbarán (1598–1664) (Prado, Madrid, Spain, Giraudon / Bridgeman Art Library)

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HANDEL: Hercules

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