

Handel's most popular and joyous oratorio, a work of unfailing melodic invention and dramatic expressiveness, has become almost a British national institution, regularly performed by all manner of choirs and orchestras. This new recording provides the only modern re-construction of Handel's unique London performances in 1751, when he used boy treble voices not only for the choruses but for the arias as well. It is both a celebration of the British chapel choir tradition and a window onto a particular time and place in the history of Handel's own performances of his masterpiece.

# George Frideric HANDEL

(1685-1759)

## Messiah (1751 Version)

### CD1

69:14

1-19 Part I

53:58

20-21 Part II

15:16

### CD2

73:05

1-21 Part II cont.

40:38

22-31 Part III

32:27

Henry Jenkinson, Otta Jones, Robert Brooks, Trebles  
Iestyn Davies, Countertenor • Toby Spence, Tenor • Eamonn Dougan, Bass

Academy of Ancient Music  
Choir of New College Oxford • Edward Higginbottom

*A complete tracklist can be found on pages 2 and 3 of the booklet*

Recorded at St John's, Smith Square, London, UK from 3rd to 8th January, 2006

Producer: Adrian Hunter • Engineer: Jonathan Stokes, Classic Sound Ltd.

Post-production: Adrian Hunter, Nick Parker and Edward Higginbottom

Cover Painting: *The Transfiguration* by Lodovico Carracci (1555-1619)

(Pinacoteca Nazionale, Bologna, Italy, Alinari / The Bridgeman Art Library)



8.570131-32

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Playing Time  
2:22:19



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