

NAXOS

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Playing Time
59:32

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Booklet notes in English • Kommentar auf Deutsch
Sung texts available at:
www.naxos.com/libretti/570149.htm
Made in Germany

Written mostly during the last five years of his life, Purcell's Theatre Music is a rich and varied collection of some of the composer's finest melodic inspirations. They include solemn overtures, cheerful and sad songs, as well as delightful dances, either incorporated into the action of the play or performed as preludes and interludes. This first volume of the series includes many gems such as the erotic musical diversion in *Amphitryon* which takes the form of a *Pastoral Dialogue betwixt Thyrsis and Iris*, the amorous shepherd begging for, and finally being granted, his heart's desire; and the series of dances in *The Gordian Knot Unty'd*, the most delightful of which are the *Rondeau*, *Minuett* and the final *Chacone*.

Henry
PURCELL
(1659–1695)

Theatre Music • 1

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| 11-11 | Amphitryon, or the Two Sosias, Z. 572 | 25:19 |
| 12 | Sir Barnaby Whigg, Z. 589 | 3:49 |
| 13-20 | The Gordian Knot Unty'd, Z. 597 | 17:00 |
| 21-26 | Circe, Z. 575 | 13:25 |

**Aronoff • Bower • Duyn • Jeffrey • Kettrick
Mahon • McArthur • Tomkins
Aradia Ensemble • Kevin Mallon**

Recorded in Grace Church on-the-Hill, Toronto, Canada, from 25th to 29th April, 2006
Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver • Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver
Please see the booklet for a detailed track list • Booklet Notes: Bill Yeoman
Purcell performing editions: Kevin Mallon

Cover Picture: *Old London Bridge from 'Visscher's London'*, 17th century engraving
by Nicolaes Jansz Visscher (1586–1652) (Bridgeman Art Library)