



8.570431-33

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Playing Time  
3:01:22

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Made in Germany  
[www.naxos.com](http://www.naxos.com)

Handel's oratorio *Semele* was composed in 1743 and tells of a beautiful mortal (Semele), whose short but spectacular love affair with Jupiter, King of the Gods, comes to a terrifying end in consequence of both her own vanity and the scheming of Jupiter's insanely jealous wife Juno. Written at the peak of Handel's powers, it is crammed with his most sparkling and dramatic music: spectacular orchestral numbers and powerful choruses combine with heart-stopping arias, including the popular *Where'er you walk* and the coloratura showpiece *Myself I shall adore*.

George Frideric  
**HANDEL**  
(1685–1759)

**Semele**  
(Secular Oratorio in Three Acts)

Semele, daughter of Cadmus ..... Elisabeth Scholl, Soprano  
Iris, attendant of Juno / Cupid ..... Julla Schmidt, Soprano  
Athamas, Prince of Boeotia ..... Ralf Popken, Countertenor  
Ino, sister to Semele ..... Britta Schwarz, Alto  
Juno ..... Annette Markert, Alto  
Jupiter / Apollo, God of Prophecy ..... Knut Schoch, Tenor  
Cadmus, King of Thebes / Somnus, God of Sleep /  
Chief Priest of Juno ..... Klaus Mertens, Bass

**Junge Kantorei • Frankfurt Baroque Orchestra**  
**Joachim Carlos Martini**

CD 1 60:14 CD 2 51:39 CD 3 69:29

1-24 Act I 60:14 1-21 Act II 51:39 1-52 Act III 69:29

Includes Free Downloadable Bonus Track available at [www.classicsonline.com](http://www.classicsonline.com)  
Please see inside booklet for full details

Recorded live at Kloster Eberbach, Rheingau, Germany, on 27th May, 2007

Editor: Joachim Carlos Martini • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

Please see the booklet for a detailed track list • Cover Picture: *Jupiter and Semele* by Gustave Moreau (1826–1898) (Musée Gustave Moreau, Paris, France / Bridgeman Art Library)