

Handel's oratorio *Israel in Egypt* was written three years before the *Messiah* and, like the *Messiah*, is somewhat atypical of the composer's oratorios. Scored for double chorus and an orchestra using trombones, trumpets, timpani, woodwinds and strings with continuo, *Israel in Egypt* contains relatively little solo material but is dominated by large-scale virtuosic choruses that fully exploit Handel's lavish and sophisticated word-painting. Set pieces for which the work is most famous include swarming strings representing flies in 'He spake the word', the furious brass and timpani in 'He gave them hailstones for rain' and the famous depiction of frogs in the aria 'Their land brought forth frogs'.

GRAND RIVER
BAROQUE
FESTIVAL

George Frideric
HANDEL
(1685–1759)

Israel in Egypt
(Oratorio in Three Parts)

CD 1

1 -13	Part I: The Lamentation of the Israelites for the death of Joseph	70:35
14 -29	Part II: The Exodus	40:25

CD 2

1 -20	Part III: Moses' Song	48:44
		48:44

**Laura Albino • Nils Brown • Jennifer Enns Modolo
Peter Mahon • Eve Rachel McLeod • Jason Nedecky**

Bud Roach • Jennie Such • Sean Watson

Aradia Ensemble • Kevin Mallon

Recorded in St Anne's Anglican Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from 3rd to 10th January, 2008

Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver • Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver

Performing Edition: Kevin Mallon • Please see the booklet for a detailed track and artist list

Booklet Notes: William Yeoman • Cover Picture: *The Israelites on the Bank of the Red Sea, 1621* by Frans Francken II The Younger (1581–1642) (Humburger Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Germany / Bridgeman Art Library)

8.570966-67

DDD

Playing Time
1:59:19



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Booklet notes and synopsis in English
Kommentar und Inhaltsangabe auf Deutsch
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