

A celebrated keyboardist and composer under the *ancien régime*, Claude-Bénigne Balbastre survived the French Revolution only to die in poverty a decade later. His multifaceted musical legacy continued the strong tradition of French harpsichord music while embracing the innovations of Italian music, such as those of Scarlatti, and fashionable new styles which emerged for the salon. Completely charming and tuneful, his keyboard works are well served by the stunning Keith Hill instrument chosen for this recording. Other highly-acclaimed recordings featuring Elizabeth Farr are also available on Naxos.

Claude-Bénigne  
**BALBASTRE**  
(1727–1799)

**Music for Harpsichord**

CD 1 (74:41)

- |              |                                                                                               |              |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>1-8</b>   | <b>Pièces de clavecin, Book 1, Nos. 1–8 (1759)</b>                                            | <b>40:51</b> |
| <b>9-11</b>  | <b>Livre contenant des pièces de différent genre d'orgue et de clavecin (1749) (excerpts)</b> | <b>12:48</b> |
| <b>12</b>    | <b>La d'Esclignac (1787)</b>                                                                  | <b>6:08</b>  |
| <b>13-16</b> | <b>Jean-Philippe Rameau (1683-1764): Pygmalion (excerpts arr. Claude-Bénigne Balbastre)</b>   | <b>14:31</b> |

CD 2 (75:30)

- |              |                                                                                               |              |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>1-9</b>   | <b>Pièces de clavecin, Book 1, Nos. 9–17 (1759)</b>                                           | <b>46:42</b> |
| <b>10-14</b> | <b>Livre contenant des pièces de différent genre d'orgue et de clavecin (1749) (excerpts)</b> | <b>18:48</b> |
| <b>15</b>    | <b>Prélude (1777)</b>                                                                         | <b>3:05</b>  |
| <b>16</b>    | <b>Marche des Marseillois et l'air Ça-ira</b>                                                 | <b>6:38</b>  |



Full track details will be found on page 2 of the booklet

**Elizabeth Farr, Harpsichord**

Recorded at Ploger Hall, Manchester, Michigan, USA, August 2008

Producer: Wolfgang Rübsam • Booklet notes: Elizabeth Farr

Cover image: Detail of a harpsichord built by Keith Hill in 2008 (photo by Keith Hill)



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**DDD**

Playing Time  
**150:11**



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