



Although Handel is not known for his keyboard music today, he was a gifted performer who astonished his contemporaries with his mastery of the instrument. First published in 1720, the 'eight great suites' contain some of Handel's most beautiful music and were immensely popular in their time. These final four suites illuminate not only his melodic gifts and dramatic flair, but his ability to unify a variety of forms and styles into a complete and magnificent whole. The first of this two volume set, acclaimed by *Fanfare* magazine for 'its often assured and inspired playing', is available on Naxos 8.572197.


 SYMPHONY
 HALL
 BIRMINGHAM

George Frideric HANDEL

(1685-1759)

Keyboard Suite No. 5 in E major,

 HWV 430 **13:32**

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|---|--|------|
| 1 | I. Prélude | 1:44 |
| 2 | II. Allemande | 4:42 |
| 3 | III. Courante | 2:23 |
| 4 | IV. Air and Doubles
(‘The Harmonious Blacksmith’) | 4:43 |

Keyboard Suite No. 6 in F sharp minor,

 HWV 431 **9:59**

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|---|-------------------|------|
| 5 | I. Prélude | 1:48 |
| 6 | I. Largo | 2:28 |
| 7 | III. Allegro | 2:55 |
| 8 | IV. Gigue: Presto | 2:48 |

Keyboard Suite No. 7 in G minor,

 HWV 432 **22:13**

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| 9 | I. Overture | 5:59 |
| 10 | II. Andante | 4:06 |
| 11 | III. Allegro | 2:02 |
| 12 | IV. Sarabande | 3:40 |
| 13 | V. Gigue | 1:21 |
| 14 | VI. Passacaille | 5:05 |

Keyboard Suite No. 8 in F minor,

 HWV 433 **13:41**

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|----|----------------|------|
| 15 | I. Prélude | 2:18 |
| 16 | II. Allegro | 2:44 |
| 17 | III. Allemande | 4:09 |
| 18 | IV. Courante | 2:07 |
| 19 | V. Gigue | 2:23 |

Philip Edward Fisher, Piano

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Producer, Engineer and Editor: Jonathan Allen (Abbey Road Studios, London)

Executive Producer & Co-producer: Dr Louis Pannullo

Piano: Steinway & Sons, provided by Symphony Hall, Birmingham • Booklet notes: Caroline Waight

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