

François Couperin published two collections of chamber music – the *Concerts Royaux* in 1722 and *Les Nations* in 1726 – in what today would be called open scoring, so that they could be performed by whatever instruments were to hand. But he confessed in the preface to a later publication that he himself preferred to perform them on two harpsichords, although that suggestion had to wait for this series of two CDs to be taken up in a recording. Here *Les Nations* and movements from the *Concerts Royaux* are presented with a number of his *Pièces de clavecin*, also in rarely heard realisations for two harpsichords.



TOCC 0203

COUPERIN Music for Two Harpsichords, Volume One

1 *Les Nations, Quatrième Ordre: La Piémontoise* (1726)*

22:21

Pièces de Clavecin, Second Livre: Sixième Ordre (1717)

15 V *Les Baricades Mistérieuses**

2:10

Concerts Royaux, Premier Concert (1722)

16 VI *Menuet en Trio*

3:09

Pièces de Clavecin, Troisième Livre: Seizième Ordre (1722)

17 VII *La Létiville*

1:16

18 *Les Nations, Second Ordre: L'Espagnole* (1726)*

29:03

Pièces de Clavecin, Troisième Livre, Quatorzième Ordre (1722)

35 VI *La Julliet*

1:53

Concerts Royaux, Troisième Concert (1722)*

36 VI *Muzette*

2:10

TT 62:21

Jochewed Schwarz and Emer Buckley, harpsichords

*FIRST RECORDINGS
IN THESE VERSIONS

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