



CHANDOS BEAR ESSENTIALS

Introducing Chandos Records

Chandos Records has been established for nearly a quarter of a century. An independent family-owned company, it aims to produce recordings of unusual and enterprising repertoire in performances of stature and originality by some of the world's greatest artists.

Chandos is constantly adding to its catalogue of 1500 or so CDs, releasing approximately 100 new discs each year. The company has received many prestigious awards for its recordings, including several *Gramophone Awards* and a *Grammy Award*. It is particularly famous for the distinctive and natural quality of its recorded sound.

Bear Essentials is the vehicle for its new series of 2-disc set compilation CDs containing music drawn from Chandos' distinguished catalogue.

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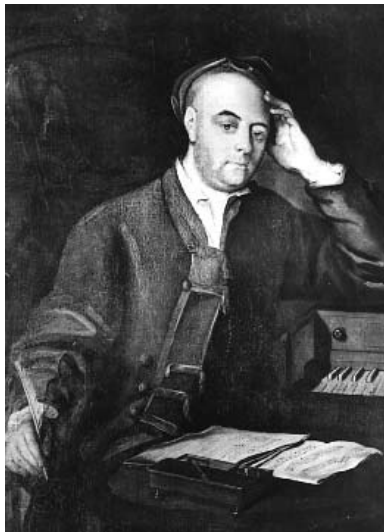
Image of G F Handel, Lebrecht Music Collection/Signature of G F Handel © 2004 The Handel House Trust Ltd

CHANDOS BEAR ESSENTIALS



George Frideric Handel

HANDEL CLASSICS



AKG

George Frideric Handel

George Frideric Handel (1685–1759)

George Frideric Handel was born in Halle, Germany. Although his family was not especially musical, the young Handel showed considerable promise. His father, a barber surgeon, was determined that his son should enter the legal profession, but Handel abandoned his law studies at Halle University after only a year to join Hamburg's opera house as a violinist and harpsichordist. An opportunity for writing an opera presented itself and the resulting production in 1705 proved a resounding triumph. Further operas followed and Handel was soon being hailed as a genius.

In 1710 Handel was appointed Court Composer in Hanover, but after the enormous success of his opera, *Rinaldo*, in London, Handel decided that his future lay in England and abandoned his post to settle there permanently. He became a Composer to the British Court (his famous *Water Music* was written to serenade King George I's river party on the Thames). He was awarded a royal pension and in 1723 became a British subject.

In the years that followed, Handel continued to immerse himself in the writing of such operas as *Berenice* and *Serse*, but in 1737 the strain proved too much for his health and a stroke left him temporarily paralysed. Following his recovery he wrote a series of oratorios (choral entertainment, usually based on a sacred subject, performable in the concert hall). These works, with their perfect combination of melodic beauty, originality and drama, are considered by many to be the pinnacle of his achievement and include *Saul*, *Samson*, *Solomon*, *Semele*, *Judas Maccabeus* and, of course, *The Messiah*, the oratorio by which his name is known throughout the world.

In the last decade of his life, Handel suffered increasing blindness and infirmity but continued to conduct oratorio performances. He died in 1759 and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

	COMPACT DISC ONE		
1	'The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba' from Solomon Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0685 Handel and the Oratorio	2:59	
2	'For unto us' from Messiah , First Part Collegium Musicum 90 / Richard Hickox CHAN 0522/3 Handel Messiah	3:49	
3	'Silent Worship' (arr. Stephen Hogger / Jack Byfield) from Ptolemy James Gilchrist / Collegium Musicum 90 / Richard Hickox	2:14	
4	Alla Hornpipe from Water Music (Suite No. 2) Scottish Chamber Orchestra / Sir Alexander Gibson CHAN 6642 Handel Water Music	2:53	
5	'Ombra mai fu' from Serse Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0650 Handel at the Opera	2:58	
6	Allemande from Suite No. 8 in G major for harpsichord Sophie Yates CHAN 0688 Handel Harpsichord Works, Vol. 3	1:58	
7	'Tra le fiamme' (aria) from Tra le fiamme Catherine Bott / The Purcell Quartet CHAN 6020 Handel Italian cantatas and trio sonatas	6:45	
8	V Allegro from Concerto grosso, Op. 6 No. 5 Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0600 Handel Concerti grossi, Op. 6	2:34	
9	'Be ye sure that the Lord he is God' from Chandos Anthem 1 Lynne Dawson / Ian Partridge / The Sixteen / Harry Christophers CHAN 0503 Handel Chandos Anthems	2:36	
10	Gigue from Water Music (Suite No. 3) Scottish Chamber Orchestra / Sir Alexander Gibson CHAN 6642 Handel Water Music	1:17	
11	Menuet from Water Music (Suite No. 2) Scottish Chamber Orchestra / Sir Alexander Gibson CHAN 6642 Handel Water Music	1:11	
12	'Dixit Dominus' (chorus) from Dixit Dominus The Sixteen / Harry Christophers CHAN 0517 Handel Dixit Dominus	5:43	
13	II Sonata from Suite No. 1 in B flat major for harpsichord Sophie Yates CHAN 0644 Handel Harpsichord Works, Vol. 1	1:43	
14	'See, the conqu'ring hero comes!' from Judas Maccabaeus Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0685 Handel and the Oratorio	2:44	
15	'Rejoice greatly' from Messiah , First Part Collegium Musicum 90 / Richard Hickox CHAN 0522/3 Handel Messiah	4:15	
16	'Lascia ch'io pianga' from Rinaldo Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0650 Handel at the Opera	4:00	
17	I Larghetto from Sonata for two violins and strings, Op. 2 No. 5 The Purcell Quartet CHAN 6020 Handel Italian cantatas and trio sonatas	2:20	
18	'Mie piante correte' from Apollo e Dafne Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0583 Handel Apollo e Dafne	3:01	
19	'Let the bright Seraphim' from Samson Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0685 Handel and the Oratorio	5:21	
20	'Dead March' (arr. Stokowski) from Saul BBC Philharmonic / Matthias Bamert CHAN 9930 Stokowski's Symphonic Baroque	5:17	
			TT 66:19

COMPACT DISC TWO			
1	Allegro from Water Music (Suite No. 1) (extr.) Scottish Chamber Orchestra / Sir Alexander Gibson CHAN 6642 Handel Water Music	2:29	
2	'The trumpet shall sound' from Messiah , Third Part (extr.) Collegium Musicum 90 / Richard Hickox CHAN 0522/3 Handel Messiah	4:06	
3	II Allegro from Concerto grosso, Op. 6 No. 1 Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0600 Handel Concerti grossi, Op. 6	1:54	
4	'Make me a clean heart, O God' from Chandos Anthem 3 Lynne Dawson / The Sixteen / Harry Christophers CHAN 0503 Handel Chandos Anthems	2:41	
5	II Allegro from Sonata for two violins and strings, Op. 5 No. 7 The Purcell Quartet CHAN 6020 Handel Italian cantatas and trio sonatas	2:07	
6	'Una guerra ho dentro il seno' from Apollo e Dafne Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0583 Handel Apollo e Dafne	2:00	
7	III Allegro from Concerto grosso, Op. 6 No. 3 Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0600 Handel Concerti grossi, Op. 6	2:38	
8	IV 'The Harmonious Blacksmith' from Suite No. 5 in E major for harpsichord Sophie Yates CHAN 0669 Handel Harpsichord Works, Vol. 2	4:36	
9	'Behold! The wicked bend their bow' from Chandos Anthem 2 The Sixteen / Harry Christophers CHAN 0554-7 Handel Chandos Anthems	2:43	
10	Overture from Berenice Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0650 Handel at the Opera	3:01	
11	'Crudel tiranno Amor' from Crudel tiranno Amor Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0583 Handel Apollo e Dafne	4:52	
12	Andante larghetto [Minuet] from Berenice Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0650 Handel at the Opera	3:45	
13	'Dank sei dir, Herr' (arr. Langford) McCann / Sellers Engineering Band CHAN 4521 The World's Most Beautiful Melodies	4:06	
14	Air from Water Music (Suite No. 1) Scottish Chamber Orchestra / Sir Alexander Gibson CHAN 6642 Handel Water Music	3:07	
15	'Ev'ry valley' from Messiah , First Part Collegium Musicum 90 / Richard Hickox CHAN 0522/3 Handel Messiah	3:06	
16	II Saraband from Suite No. 4 in D minor for harpsichord Sophie Yates CHAN 0644 Handel Harpsichord Works, Vol. 1	2:06	
17	'Where e'er you walk' from Semele Collegium Musicum 90 / Simon Standage CHAN 0685 Handel and the Oratorio	4:16	
18	'The Lord is my strength and my shield' from Anthem 10 The Sixteen / Harry Christophers CHAN 0554-7 Handel Chandos Anthems	2:15	
19	II Allegro from Concerto grosso, Op. 6 No. 9 I Musici de Montréal / Yuli Turovsky CHAN 9006/5/6 Handel Concerti grossi, Op. 6	3:29	
20	'Hallelujah' from Messiah , Second Part Collegium Musicum 90 / Richard Hickox CHAN 0522/3 Handel Messiah	3:58	
			TT 63:54

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Printed in the EU	
LC 7038	DDD

24-bit/96 kHz digitally remastered



HANDEL CLASSICS

This celebration of **George Frideric Handel** (1685–1759) brings you a comprehensive and diverse selection of his works including such favourites as: **The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba** (*Solomon*), **For unto us** and **Hallelujah** (*Messiah*), **The Harmonious Blacksmith** (*Suite No. 5 for harpsichord*), **See the conqu'ring hero comes!** (*Judas Maccabaeus*), **Let the bright Seraphim** (*Samson*), **Where e'er you walk** (*Semele*), **Silent Worship** (*Ptolemy*), as well as excerpts from **Water Music**, **Concerti grossi, Op. 6**, **Chandos Anthems**, **Apollo e Dafne**, and many more.

The works are performed by a variety of popular artists and are all taken from Chandos' extensive collection of Handel recordings.

COMPACT DISC ONE TT 66:19 | COMPACT DISC TWO TT 63:54

Chandos Records Ltd . Colchester . Essex . England

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