O barbaro Amore
AGOSTINO STEFFANI
(1654-1728)
Duetti da camera

Trained as a singer, Steffani was an impeccable composer for the voice. His ingratiating melodies, held by sure-footed harmony, subtly convey every nuance of the words that he set. In his chamber duets these qualities are enhanced by a richness of vocal textures ranging from parallel motion to intricate counterpoint. Like the trio sonatas of Corelli (their instrumental counterparts), the duets of Steffani were the pinnacle of their genre, providing models for Handel and others.

That the magnificent examples on this CD are presented as a story demonstrates that they approach the subject of love from an ingenious variety of angles.

Track List
O barbaro Amore

1. È spento l’ardore
2. Saldi marmi
3. Io voglio provar
4. Non so chi mi piagò
5. Placidissime catene
6. Lontananza crudel
7. Il mio seno è un mar di pene
8. Quando ti stringo, o cara
9. Labri belli, dite un po
10. Occhi, perché piangete?

Features:
- Specially devised program of vocal duets by leading Italian baroque composer, Agostino Steffani, creating a unique dramatic narrative, illuminating the nature of love.
- Showcases performances by leading vocal soloists, experts in the dramatic Italian baroque vocal style.
- Musical direction by noted harpsichordist, Jory Vinikour and a distinguished continuo team.
- 32-page booklet includes complete Italian texts with English translations.
- Recorded in the prestigious Sono Luminus studios, Boyce, VA by Daniel Shore (engineer) and Dan Mercruio (producer).
- Booklet essay by Prof. Colin Timms of University of Birmingham, UK: the leading present-day Steffani scholar, who also served as musical adviser to the project.

Target Markets:
Worldwide major metro markets, culturally-oriented cities & college towns.


Configuration:
Single CD in Digipak

Available: August, 2018

Recorded: February 14th–18th 2017

Booklet: 32 page

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