New Compact Disc Release

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Agostino Steffani (1654-1728)
A son très-humble service
Duets for Sophie Charlotte of Hanover
Andréanne Brisson Paquin, soprano
Sherezade Panthaki, soprano
Reginald Mobley, countertenor
Scott Brunscheen, tenor
Mischa Bouvier, bass
Alexa Haynes-Pilon, cello
Deborah Fox, theorbo and guitar
Jory Vinikour, harpsichord and direction

These chamber duets bear witness to the close friendship between Agostino Steffani and Sophie Charlotte of Hanover. They became acquainted in the 1680s and remained in touch until 1703, by which time she was ‘queen in Prussia’. A talented individual, she sang, played the harpsichord and wrote poesia per musica. Steffani composed five duets for her and made a collection of twenty-six others that he intended to give her. As he revised them for presentation, he corresponded with her, and she sent him unbridled encouragement. Her admiration leaps from her letters, quoted in the liner note, and its effect is audible in the music it inspired.

Features:
- A further double CD offering of duets by Agostino Steffani, this time dedicated to the Prussian princess, Sophie Charlotte.
- 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.
- 36-page booklet includes complete Italian texts with English translations.
- Recorded in the prestigious Sono Luminus studios, Boyce, VA by Daniel Shore (engineer) and Dan Merceruio (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:
Two CD set in Digipak
Available: Summer, 2020
Recorded: October 7th – 11th, 2018
Booklet: 36 page

Track List
CD 1
1. Pria ch’io faccia altrui palese (ABP, SP)
2. Inquieto mio cor, lasciami in pace (ABP, RM)
3. Ah! che l’ho sempre detto* (ABP, SB)
4. Che volete, o crude pene (SP, RM)
5. Aure, voi che volate* (RM, MB)
6. Cangia pensier, mio cor* (SP, ABP)

CD 2
1. Crudo Amor, morir mi sento (ABP, RM)
2. Non ve ne state a ridere* (SP, SB)
3. Ravvediti, mio core* (SP, ABP)
4. Sia maledetto Amor (RM, MB)
5. Io mi parto, o cara vita (SP, SB)

* World Premiere Recordings

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