

GLOSSA 

ACI, GALATEA E POLIFEMO

Version for Senesino (London, after 1718)

george frideric handel
1685-1759

CD I 41:21 | CD II 42:00

Aci **Raffaele Pe** countertenor
Galatea **Giuseppina Bridelli** mezzo-soprano
Polifemo **Andrea Mastroni** baritone

LA LIRA DI ORFEO
Luca Guglielmi concertmaster

note 1  music
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Piacenza, in October 2020
Recording producer: Simone Bellucci
Essay in English – Français – Deutsch
Made in the Netherlands

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george frideric handel

ACI, GALATEA E POLIFEMO

raffaele pe · giuseppina bridelli · andrea mastroni

LA LIRA DI ORFEO

<p>George Frideric Handel ACI, GALATEA E POLIFEMO Version for Senesino</p> <p>Raffaele Pe Giuseppina Bridelli Andrea Mastroni La Lira di Orfeo Luca Guglielmi</p>	GCD923528	PC: 02G
	<p>2 CDs</p> <p>2020</p>	

Handel's dramatic cantata *Acis, Galatea e Polifemo* is a serenata first performed in Naples in 1708 with a libretto by Nicola Giuvo after Book 13 of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Handel adapted this score several times: The one-act masque *Acis and Galatea* (HWV 49), with an English text by John Gay, was first performed at Cannons in 1718. This was followed by, among others, a version as a three-act serenata for the Italian opera company in London in 1732 and an adaptation of the original English work into a two-act work in 1739. The so-called 'Senesino version' presented on this recording is based on a manuscript from the British library in London.

In this version probably written for the famous castrato Senesino, *Acis* is an alto and *Galatea* is a soprano, all arias of the two characters are transposed. *Polifemo*' part is almost completely re-written, with long accompanied recitatives and new arias. The instrumentation is slightly different from the Neapolitan version: No trumpets are present but a more extended use of woodwinds and recorders.