

GLOSSA

Un Opéra pour trois rois

An imaginary "fête musicale", reviving the glories of royal music as performed in Versailles before Louis XIV, Louis XV and Louis XVI, provides the opportunity of hearing pieces by leading composers in France from the time – both the famous and the hitherto totally neglected.

Une « fête musicale » imaginaire, ressuscitant la splendeur des musiques royales jouées à Versailles devant Louis XIV, Louis XV et Louis XVI, fait entendre des pages célèbres et d'autres totalement inédites composées par les plus grands musiciens français de l'époque.

Ein imaginäres musikalisches Fest, das den Glanz der königlichen Musik in Versailles wieder aufleben lässt, wie sie vor Louis XIV, Louis XV und Louis XVI erklang. Zu hören sind sowohl bekannte als auch vollkommen vergessene Werke der größten Komponisten in Frankreich zu dieser Zeit.

CD I [47:51] CD II [43:55]
Première Partie Deuxième Partie

Works by Lully, Rameau, Destouches, Mondonville, Philidor, Bury, Rameau, Lalande, Colin de Blamont, Dauvergne, Leclair and Royer Piccini, Gluck, Rebel, Francoeur and Destouches

Chantal Santon-Jeffery, *la Renommée* Purcell Choir
Emöke Baráth, *la Gloire* Orfeo Orchestra
Thomas Dolié, *Apollon* György Vashegyi, *director*

Co-production of Centre de musique baroque de Versailles and Orfeo Music Foundation with the support of Múpa Budapest, Francine and Arnout Charoy and Institut Français de Budapest. Recorded at the Béla Bartók National Concert Hall of Múpa Budapest, Hungary, on 21-23 November 2015

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Un Opéra pour trois rois

A Versailles entertainment for Louis XIV, Louis XV & Louis XVI
Music by Lully, Rameau, Gluck et al.



Chantal Santon-Jeffery | Emöke Baráth | Thomas Dolié
Purcell Choir | Orfeo Orchestra | György Vashegyi

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UN OPÉRA POUR TROIS ROIS Music by Lully, Rameau, Gluck et al. Chantal Santon-Jeffery Emöke Baráth Thomas Dolié Purcell Choir Orfeo Orchestra György Vashegyi	GCD 924002	PC: 021
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<p>Also available: GCD 924001 Jean-Joseph Cassanéa de Mondonville – ISBÉ György Vashegyi/Purcell Choir/Orfeo Orchestra</p>		

For approaching a century and a half in France – across the reigns of Louis XIV, XV and XVI – the Palace of Versailles played host, both indoors and outdoors, for an extraordinary sequence of dramatic musical performances. *Un Opéra pour trois rois*, conducted by **György Vashegyi**, represents the legacy of that time, a specially constructed operatic entertainment drawn from works by composers from Lully to Gluck, commissioned – and even, on occasion, performed – by kings, their queens and inamoratas.

There are plenty of firm favourites here – Rameau's "Tristes apprêts" (Castor et Pollux) and "Forêts paisibles" (Les Indes galantes), but one of the additional attractions of this double-disc extravaganza released by Glossa is the chance to hear music of quality by hitherto woefully ignored compositions (Le Retour du printemps, Antoine Dauvergne, Les Caractères de la Folie, Bernard de Bury or Le Pouvoir de l'Amour, Panrace Royer), all demonstrating the depths of quality still waiting to be rediscovered.

And there are selections to be had from operas by Mondonville, Destouches, Leclair and Francoeur and Rebel as well. Further attractions are the performances from the three soloists (each adopting the role of an allegorical figure for the event): **Chantal Santon-Jeffery**, **Emöke Baráth** and **Thomas Dolié**, along with Vashegyi's **Purcell Choir** and **Orfeo Orchestra**. In his booklet essay, Benoit Dratwicksi draws on his immense knowledge in order to set the scene in the royal residence of Versailles for this imaginary fête musicale of lyricism and duets, music both sombre and joyful, symphonies and orages.