

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL
(1685-1759)

SAUL

Oratorio in three acts
in drei Akten · en trois actes · in tre atti
Libretto · Livret: Charles Jennens
Rev. John Eliot Gardiner & Anthony Hicks
(Publishers · Verlag: Ed. Kalmus)

MONTEVERDI CHOIR
ENGLISH BAROQUE SOLOISTS
JOHN ELIOT GARDINER

Live recording · Live-Aufnahme · Enregistrement public · Registrazione dal vivo:
Stadthalle Göttingen, Germany, 6/1989

This recording was made live with the help and co-operation of the Göttingen Händel Festival

Artists and repertoire production: Louwrens Langevoort
Recording producer: Wilhelm Hellweg
Balance engineer: Onno Scholtze
Recording engineers: Stan Taal, Erwin de Ceuster
Tape editor: Everett Porter

MICHAL	LYNNE DAWSON soprano
MERAB	DONNA BROWN soprano
DAVID	DEREK LEE RAGIN countertenor
JONATHAN	JOHN MARK AINSLEY tenor
HIGH PRIEST	NEIL MACKIE tenor
SAUL	ALASTAIR MILES bass
WITCH OF ENDOR	PHILIP SALMON tenor
ABNER & AMALEKITE	PHILIP SLANE tenor
SAMUEL	RICHARD SAVAGE bass
DOEG	SIMON OBERST bass
Solo (No. 2)	RUTH HOLTON soprano

Symphony

1	Allegro	4'02"	60
2	Larghetto	1'52"	60
3	Allegro	2'46"	60
4	Andante larghetto	3'15"	60

ACT ONE · ERSTER AKT · PREMIER ACTE · ATTO PRIMO

5	1. «How excellent Thy name, o Lord» (Chorus)	2'43"	60
6	2. «An infant raised» (Air: Soprano)	2'32"	60
	3. «Along the monster atheist stode» (Trio: countertenor, tenor, bass)		
7	4. «The youth inspired by Thee, o Lord» (Chorus)	1'50"	62
8	5. «How excellent Thy name, o Lord» (Chorus)	2'20"	62
9	6. «He comes» (Recitative: Michal)	3'07"	62
	7. «O God-like youth» (Air: Michal)		
10	8. «Behold, o king, the brave, victorious youth» (Recitative: Abner, Saul, David)	0'45"	64
11	9. «O king, your favours with delight» (Air: David)	5'15"	66

		Timing	Page Seite
	10. «Oh early piety!» (Recitative: Jonathan)		
12	11. «What abject thoughts» (Air: Merab)	2'27"	66
	12. «Yet think on whom this honour» (Recitative: Merab)		
13	13. «Birth and fortune I despise» (Air: Jonathan)	4'05"	68
14	14. «Go on, illustrious pair!» (Recitative: High Priest)	2'30"	68
	15. «While yet thy tide of blood» (Air: High Priest)		

		Timing	Page Seite
15	16. «Thou, Merab, first in birth» (Recitative: Saul, Merab)	3'21"	70
	17. «My soul rejects» (Air: Merab)		
	18. «See, with what a scornful air» (Air: Michal)		
	19. «Ah, lovely youth» (Air: Michal)		
16	20. Symphony	2'47"	72
	21. «Already see the daughters» (Recitative: Michal)		
	22. «Welcome, welcome, mighty king!» (Chorus)		
17	23. «What do I hear?» (Accompagnato: Saul)	1'09"	74
	24. «David his ten thousands slew» (Chorus)		
	25. «To him ten thousands» (Accompagnato: Saul)		
18	26. «With rage I shall burst» (Air: Saul)	1'21"	74
19	27. «Imprudent women!» (Recitative: Jonathan, Michal)	0'40"	74
20	28. «Fell rage and black despair possessed» (Air: Michal)	2'34"	76
21	29. «This but the smallest part of Harmony» (Recitative: High Priest)	2'35"	76

		Timing	Page Seite
	30. «By thee this universal frame» (Accompagnato: High Priest)		
22	31. «Racked with infernal pains» (Recitative: Abner)	0'11"	78
23	32. «O Lord, whose mercies numberless» (Air: David)	5'09"	78
	33. Symphony		
24	34. «'Tis all in vain» (Recitative: Jonathan)	2'16"	80
	35. «A serpent, in my bosom warmed» (Air: Saul)		
	36. «Has he escaped my rage?» (Recitative: Saul)		
25	37. «Capricious man» (Air: Merab)	3'37"	82
26	38. «O filial piety!» (Accompagnato: Jonathan)	1'20"	82
27	39. «No, cruel father, no!» (Air: Jonathan)	1'34"	82
28	40. «O Lord, whose providence» (Air: High Priest) (Chorus)	1'36"	84
29	41. «Preserve him for the glory»	2'51"	84
30	[Applause]	0'21"	84

ACT TWO · ZWEITER AKT · DEUXIÈME ACTE · ATTO SECONDO

1	42. «Envy! eldest born of hell!» (Chorus)	2'48"	86
2	43. «Ah, dearest friend» (Recitative: Jonathan)	0'30"	88
3	44. «But sooner Jordan's stream» (Air: Jonathan)	2'07"	88
4	45. «Oh strange vicissitude!» (Recitative: David, Jonathan)	0'46"	88
5	46. «Such haughty beauties» (Air: David)	4'17"	90
6	47. «My father comes» (Recitative: Jonathan)	0'43"	90
	48. «Hast thou obeyed my orders» (Recitative: Saul, Jonathan)		
7	49. «Sin not, o king» (Air: Jonathan)	2'09"	92
8	50. «As great Jehovah lives» (Air: Saul)	1'17"	94
9	51. «From cities stormed» (Air: Jonathan)	2'13"	94
10	52. «Appear, my friend» (Recitative: Jonathan)	0'31"	94
11	53. «Your words, o king» (Air: David)	1'24"	96

		Timing	Page Seite
	54. «Yes, he shall wed my daughter» (Recitative: Saul)		
12	55. «A father's will» (Recitative: Michal)	0'26"	96
13	56. «Oh fairest of ten thousand fair» (Duet: Michal, David)	4'05"	98
	57. «Is there a man» (Chorus)		
14	58. Symphony	4'06"	98
15	59. «Thy father is as cruel» (Recitative: David)	0'32"	100
16	60. «At persecution I can laugh» (Duet: David, Michal)	1'15"	100
17	61. «Whom dost thou seek?» (Recitative: Michal, Doeg)	0'30"	102
18	62. «No, no let the guilty tremble» (Air: Michal)	1'27"	104
19	63. «Mean as he was» (Recitative: Merab)	0'49"	104
20	64. «Author of peace» (Air: Merab)	3'10"	104
21	65. Symphony	1'13"	106
22	66. «The time at length is come» (Accompagnato: Saul)	1'32"	106
	67. «Where is the son of Jesse?» (Recitative: Saul, Jonathan)		
23	68. «Oh fatal consequence» (Chorus)	5'31"	108

ACT THREE · DRITTER AKT · TROISIÈME ACTE · ATTO TERZO

1	69. «Wretch that I am» (Accompagnato: Saul)	3'43"	110
	70. «'Tis said, here lives a woman» (Accompagnato: Saul)		
	71. «With me what would'st thou?» (Recitative: Witch, Saul)		
2	72. «Infernal spirits» (Air: Witch)	2'13"	114
3	73. «Why hast thou forced me» (Accompagnato: Samuel, Saul)	3'01"	114
4	74. Symphony	0'35"	116
5	75. «Whence comest thou» (Recitative: David, Amalekite)	2'38"	116
	76. «Impious wretch» (Air: David)		
6	77. Dead March	3'05"	120
7	78. «Mourn, Israel» (Chorus)	3'24"	120
8	79. «Oh let it not in Gath be heard» (Air: High Priest)	2'05"	120
9	80. «From this unhappy day» (Air: Merab)	2'52"	120
10	81. «Brave Jonathan his bow never drew» (Air: David)	2'24"	122

		Timing	Page Seite
[11]	82. «Eagles were not so swift as they» (Chorus)	0'21"	122
[12]	83. «In sweetest harmony» (Air: Michal)	4'28"	122
[13]	84. «O fatal day!» (David, Chorus)	4'40"	124
[14]	85. «Ye men of Judah, weep no more» (Recitative: High Priest)	0'27"	124
[15]	86. «Gird on thy sword» (Chorus)	5'16"	126
[16]	[Applause]	0'26"	126