

## Harp Concertos - Handel Boieldieu Dittersdorf (1990)

Written by bluesever

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1. Handel - Harp Concerto in B flat, Op.4, No.6, HWV 294 - 1. Andante allegro
2. Handel - Harp Concerto in B flat, Op.4, No.6, HWV 294 - 2. Larghetto
3. Handel - Harp Concerto in B flat, Op.4, No.6, HWV 294 - 3. Allegro moderato
4. Boieldieu - Concerto for Harp and Orchestra in C - 1. Allegro brillante
5. Boieldieu - Concerto for Harp and Orchestra in C - 2. Andante lento
6. Boieldieu - Concerto for Harp and Orchestra in C - 3. Rondo (Allegro agitato)
7. Dittersdorf - Harp Concerto in A major - 1. Allegro molto
8. Dittersdorf - Harp Concerto in A major - 2. Larghetto
9. Dittersdorf - Harp Concerto in A major - 3. Rondeau: Allegretto
10. Mozart - Theme, Variations and Rondo Pastorale (formerly attrib. to Mozart)
11. Handel - Variations for harp (published 1826. Spurious)
12. Beethoven - 6 Variations on a Swiss Song in F major WoO 64

Marisa Robles – harp

The Academy of St. Martin-in-the Fields

Iona Brown – director

Even if you're not a big fan of harp music, this wonderful disc is still a must-have. Containing music both well-known (the Handel concerto) and little known (the Dittersdorf) it also contains the masterpiece of the French late-classic composer Boieldieu -- his wonderful harp concerto. It is a memorable work, and bears a very individual stamp. The brisk and lyric opening movement has harmonic intimations of the Romantic period to come, as well as a limpid Classical clarity. The minor key slow movement is lovely and haunting, and the finale even one-ups the slow movement. A rondo in ostensible major-key, its main theme has an oscillation into the minor mode that almost sends shivers up your back, so visceral is its impact, though subtle nonetheless: it is a truly wondrous movement, haunting, achingly beautiful. The magnificent playing of the great Marisa Robles does full justice to the wonderful pieces on the album, and the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields is splendid. As bonuses, solo harp works by Mozart and

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Beethoven round out a fabulous menu of delectable works. If beauty in music is not your cup of tea, then by all means buy some John Cage (or acid rock or whathaveyou); but otherwise, you'll be delighted with this exquisite disc! ---amazon.com

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