

Marin Marais - La Rêveuse & Autres Pièces De Viole (2003)

Written by bluesever

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Mr de Sainte-Colombe (XVIIe Siècle) 1 'Chaconne Raportée' À Deux Violes Esgales (Extr. Concert XLVIIIe Siècle : 'Le Raporte') 5:20 Marin

Marais (1656-1728)

2 'Prélude En Harpègement' - Rondement (Extr. Ve Livre, 1725) 2:35 3 'Fantaisie' (Extr. IIIe Livre, 1711) 1:02 4 'Grand Ballet' (Extr. IIIe Livre, 1711) 4:33 5 'Caprice' Ou 'Sonate' - Lent, Très Légèrement (Extr. IVe Livre, 1717) 4:37 6 'Muzette' (Extr. IVe Livre, 1717) 2:14 7 'Couplets De Folies' (Extr. IIe Livre, 1701) 16:44 8 'La Rêveuse' (Extr. IVe Livre, 1717) 5:15 9 'Dialogue' - Légèrement (Extr. Ve Livre, 1725) 3:02 10 'Plainte' - Lentement (Extr. IIIe Livre, 1711) 3:22 11 'Chaconne' (Extr. Ve Livre, 1725) 3:08 12 'Tombeau Pour Mr De Sainte-Colombe' (Extr. IIe Livre, 1701) 7:15

Guitar [Baroque Guitar] – Evangelina Mascardi (tracks: 2 to 11) Harpsichord – Luca Guglielmi (tracks: 2 to 7, 9 to 11) Theorbo, Guitar [Baroque Guitar] – Xavier Díaz (tracks: 2 to 12) Viol [Basse De Viole] – Sophie Watillon, Friederike Heumann (tracks: 1 to 7, 9 to 11)

Today, as in his lifetime, Marin Marais is recognized as one of the great figures in the French school of bass viol players and composers of the Grand Siècle. Yet for nearly two centuries his name was forgotten, as was the instrument that brought him fame throughout Western Europe. It was until the twentieth century that Marin Marais and the bass viol were finally resuscitated. Beautifully packaged and with extensive liner notes in French and English, Alpha Productions delivers yet another marvelous recording and artist. ---Editorial Reviews, amazon.com

This disc is up against some phenomenal competition. There are already magnificent recordings of Marais' music by giants of the gamba like Jordi Savall and Paulo Pandolfo. I was a bit dubious as to whether Sophie Watillon could in any way match these performances or

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bring anything new to the music, but she certainly does. I found this a delightful and engaging disc with real musical merit.

Sophie Watillon and her small ensemble play with genuine thoughtfulness and insight. Their technique is uniformly excellent and the performance has the feel of a chamber group with a fine rapport between them. The overall effect is very lovely, with the theorbo continuo an especially beautiful sound. They bring terrific feeling to Marais's music with real emotion in the Tombeau pour M. de Sainte Colombe, for example, and a verve and drive to the livelier pieces which makes them a delight.

With Alpha's excellent recorded sound and very attractive presentation this is an extremely fine disc all round and (rather against my initial expectations) I recommend it very warmly indeed.
---Sid Nuncius, amazon.com

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