

Cecilia Bartoli – Arie Antiche Si Tu M'Ami (2005)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Gia il sole dal gange* 02. *Son tutta duolo* 03. *Se Florindo è fedele* (from "La donna ancora è fedele") 04. *O cessate di piagarmi* (from *Il Pompeo*) 05. *Spesso vibra per suo gioco* 06. *Caro mio ben* 07. *Pur dicesti, o bocca bella* 08. *Oronthea - Intorno all'idol mio* 09. *Nel cor più non mi sento* 10. *Nina, o sia la Pazza per Amore - Il mio ben quando verrà* 11. *O leggiadri occhi belli* 12. *Quella fiamma che m'accende* 13. *Selve amiche* 14. *Sebben crudele mi fai languir'* 15. *Tu ch'hai le penne, amore* 16. *Se tu m'ami* (formerly attributed to Pergolesi) 17. *Chi vuol la zingarella* (from *Zingari in Fiera*) 18. *Amarilli mia bella* 19. *Delizie contente* 20. *Sposa son disprezzata* 21. *Vittoria, mio core!* Cecilia Bartoli – mezzo-soprano György Fischer – piano

I have always appreciated the lower voice ranges infinitely more than the higher ones. Mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli is one of the most interesting talents to have come along during the past years in that department. This album is comprised of the so-called 'Arie Antiche', and of all her recordings, it is this album which is the most dear to me. Here she presents to the listener a programme of Baroque composers, with the exception of the Parisotti aria (19th century), which has for long been attributed to Pergolesi. The featured composers are: Scarlatti, Giordani, Lotti, Cesti, Paisiello, Marcello, Caldara, Caccini, Parisotti, Cavalli, Vivaldi and Carissimi. The 'Arie Antiche' are often dreaded by singers and may well serve as a test case of their vocal abilities. Cecilia Bartoli pulls it off beautifully, and this is the kind of repertoire which I love best. She imbues her performances with such warmth and intelligence! Bringing out every colour and nuance of these songs which deal with love, loss and heartbreak. Her rendition lends the 'Arie Antiche' a freshness as if the composers had just written these for her. Since respect for the composers and musical integrity are always central to her approach of music and song. Gyorgy Fischer lends her a fine, sparkling and attentive support on piano. The accompanying booklet contains information on the 'Arie Antiche', the Italian texts and English translations.

Some favourites are; 'Gia sole del Gange', 'Caro mio ben', 'Pur dicesti, o bocca bella', 'Amarilli' or 'Vittoria, Vittoria'. In my opinion, an indispensable album for admirers of Cecilia Bartoli and

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