Jommelli – Tirsi - Soprano Cantatas (2014)



Niccolo Jommelli: Giusti numi, "Didone abbandonata" 1. Giusti Dei che il Ciel reggete

2.Recitative: Cosi dicea l'abbandonata Dido 3.Accendi, oh re superbo

Niccolo Jommelli: E quando sara mai

4.Recitative: E quando sara mai che alle mie pene 5.Al mio verace affanno 6.Recitative: Ma disperdono i venti 7.Se vedrai quel freddo sasso

Francesco Durante: Sonata No. 6 per cembalo divisi in studii e divertimenti in B-Flat Major

8.I. Studio: Adagio - Allegro 9.II. Divertimento: Allegro

Niccolo Jommelli: Partir conviene

10.Partir conviene, addio! 11.Recitative: Si, parto, e ver, mia vita 12.In fosca e nera spoglia 13.Recitative: Tu intanto se il mio cor teco gia resta 14.Se parli col mio cor

Niccolo Jommelli: Perdona, amata Nice, "La gelosia"

15.Recitative: Perdono, amata Nice 16.Bei labbri, ch'Amore 17.Recitative: Son reo, non mi difendo 18.Giura il nocchier che al mare

Yetzabel Arias Fernández (soprano) Stile Galante Stefano Aresi (director)

This year marks the tercentenary of the birth of Neapolitan composer Niccolò Jommelli, best known for a series of operas that make such fearsome demands on their performers that their outings are few and far between. This disc breaks new ground in gathering together four of his chamber cantatas for soprano, strings and harpsichord. We know next to nothing about their genesis except that they pre-date 1753, when Jommelli decided to base himself in northern Europe. Like the operas, they place virtuosity at the service of emotional veracity, and Cuban soprano Yetzabel Arias Fernández sings them with considerable dexterity and an attractively gleaming tone. It seems churlish, given her technical expertise, to complain about her diction, but we could do with more of the words, particularly in the recitatives. Stile Galante, under Stefano Aresi, are impeccable accompanists. ---Tim Ashley, theguardian.com

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Niccolò Jommelli's (1714-74) surviving chamber cantatas for solo voice constitute only a fraction of his output. Virtually all these cantatas are intended for a solo soprano accompanied by an ensemble consisting of violins (primarily playing in unison), viola and basso continuo. Cuban-born soprano Yetzabel Arias Fernández has won prizes in singing competitions in Chimay, Naples and Rome and performed at important Festivals (and venues) in Europe with the most distinguished baroque ensembles and orchestras under Ton Koopman, Jordi Savall and Helmut Rilling, amongst others. --- arkivmusic.com

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