Andreas Scholl - Ombra mai fu - Handel Arias (1999)

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- 01. Admeto, Re di Tessaglia: Ouverture
- 02. Admeto, Re di Tessaglia: Ballo di Larve
- 03. Admeto, Re di Tessaglia: Recitativo-accompagnato
- 04. Admeto, Re di Tessaglia: Aria
- 05. Serse: Sinfonia
- 06. Serse: Recitativo
- 07. Serse: Aria
- 08. Giulio Cesare In Egitto: Aria
- 09. Giulio Cesare In Egitto: Gigue
- 10. Giulio Cesare In Egitto: Aria
- 11. Radamisto: Passacaille
- 12. Radamisto: Gigue
- 13. Radamisto: Passepied
- 14. Radamisto: Rigaudon
- 15. Rodelinda, Regina de Langobardi: Sinfonia Recitativo
- 16. Rodelinda, Regina de Langobardi: Aria
- 17. Rodelinda, Regina de Langobardi: Sinfonia
- 18. Rodelinda, Regina de Langobardi: Accompagnato
- 19. Rodelinda, Regina de Langobardi: Aria
- 20. Alcina: Aria
- 21. Alexander's Feast: Allegro
- 22. Alexander's Feast: Largo
- 23. Alexander's Feast: Allegro
- 24. Alexander's Feast: Andante non Presto
- Andreas Scholl counter-tenor Akademie für Alte Musik Berlin

I love the Handel collection in this album. The instrumental as well as vocal excerpts are being delivered in exceptionally musical manner. Needless to say, the 'hottest' countertenor today is Frenchman Philippe Jaroussky - and it is easy to guess why. If there is 'fach' differences in

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countertenors as well, Scholl is an alto, while Jaroussky and Waschinski are sopranos. Having heard Mr. Scholl in live performance, I would report that Andreas Scholl is currently the top man in this genre. Why? Countertenor technique uses almost solely the headvoice. While many countertenors enjoy an exceptionally pure and sweet timbre in the headvoice section, not all countertenors are able to be as expressive as female sopranos or mezzo-sopranos. I have not heard any countertenors own voices of exceptional purity, on prolonged listening and in dramatic moments, often the delivery falls rather short even in the most musical singer. Not so for Andreas Scholl, a miraculously gifted and truly intelligent musician and singer. His repertoire extends from modern folk songs to renaissance period compositions, from lieder to operatic works. His 'Ombra Mai Fu' is about the best version available on record, whether by countertenors, mezzo-sopranos, baritones, or tenors. I totally disagree that he is a hype. Time has proven since this release that this exceptionally talently musician is an artist of the highest calibre. --- Abel "AMY" (Hong Kong)

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