Written by bluesever Monday, 13 June 2011 22:20 - Last Updated Sunday, 17 November 2013 20:38

Giovanni Gabrieli - The Canzonas and Sonatas from Sacrae Symphoniae (2011)



1. Canzon duodecimi toni a 10 2. Canzon primi toni a 8 3. Canzon primi toni a 10 4. Toccata quinti toni play 5. Canzon duodecimi toni a 10 6. Canzon quarti toni a 15 7. Canzon duodecimi toni a 10 8. Toccata 9. Sonata pian' e forte a 8, alla bassa 10. Canzon septimi toni a 8 11. Toccata play 12. Canzon septimi toni a 8 13. Canzon in echo duodecimi toni a 10 14. Canzon duodecimi toni a 8 15. Canzon in echo duodecimi toni a 10 16. Canzon septimi et octavi toni a 12 17. Sonata octavi toni a 12 18. Canzon in echo duodecimi toni a 10, per concertar con l'organo 19. Intonazione noni toni 20. Canzon noni toni a 8 21. Canzon noni toni a 12 His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts Timothy Roberts – director, moderator.

The only complete recording of the Sacræ Symphoniæ of 1597 on period instruments. The performances are very satisfactory and there are some very attractive sounds on this recording. Up to eight cornetts are used (in two pieces) and twelve trombones (sackbuts) feature in another work. A few organ works are included to break up the program a little. My only complaint it that some of the pieces are transposed down by a 4th. This really doesn't need to happen with this music - it is an option, of course - but why was it done here? A couple of my favourite canzonas sound very dark as a result. I enjoy this recording but it isn't one I'd listen all in one sitting. Rather, this is a CD to 'dip into'. Let us hope that Concerto Palatino or Musica Fiata tackle this landmark collection of music some time! ---Steven Guy. Australia

The very best thing about this recording is that it is another offering by the superb His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts, a group specializing in Renaissance period music and instruments, who has never failed to offer an excellent rendition of the works they perform. Aside from that, my primary interest as an old music amateur is that this is both a composer and two genres which

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are not widely known, so having an excellent realization of both, not to mention the usually superb Hyperion packaging and recording, is a definite treat. ---B. Marold

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