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RECITAL



03/18-(4)

**ARCHETYPON**

Arias by Porpora, Hasse, Cherubini, Paisiello, Gluck, Fiorè & Handel

Mary-Ellen Nesi, mezzo-soprano  
Armonia Atenea  
George Petrou, cond.

1 Hybrid-SACD

MDG 909 2064-6

UPC-Code:



2+2+2<sup>®</sup>  
RECORDING

LC06768

**Mezzo Depth**

Powerful female characters and a woman's powerful voice: MDG listeners are familiar with Mary-Ellen Nesi from several outstanding Handel recordings. In her most recent recital the acclaimed mezzo-soprano turns to dramatic roles from Baroque and classical operas. The selection on this Super Audio CD is compelling: supported by the musicians of Armonia Atenea under the conductor George Petrou, Nesi lends complex female characters a deep intensity of irresistible audience appeal from the first note straight through to the very end.

**Mythic Divas**

And these characters really do have to be filled with life. From Medea to Aristeia, from Alcestis to Galatea, and from Andromeda to Eurydice: the ancient material has been set many times, and the interpretations of these personalities, often complicated ones, are no less diverse. Hasse's *Eurydice* endows the enchanting nymph with a self-confidence that was once completely foreign to Gluck and Monteverdi.

**Medean Drama**

And then Medea: the mother who murdered her children doubtless numbers among the most fascinating figures from ancient mythology. While Handel, bowing to convention, eliminated the bloodthirsty episode, two generations later Cherubini depicted the whole Medea, in a role with absolutely superhuman difficulties. The work was too extreme even for his contemporaries. It was not until 2013 that researchers used x-rays to rouse the sleeping beauty

"Du trouble affreux" after more than two hundred years of slumber.

**MDG Dimensions**

Extraordinary: Ismene's aria "Un cor più misero" from Andrea Stefano Fiorè's *Pirro* is framed by two concertizing cellos; it is only occasionally that the violins and a bit of thoroughbass join them in an accompaniment function. This arrangement is impressive in stereo and synonymous with genuine listening pleasure when heard in MDG's three-dimensional 2+2+2 sound.

**Operas by G. F. Handel with Mary-Ellen Nesi:**

**Oreste**  
MDG 609 1273-2 (2 CDs)

**Arianna in Creta**  
MDG 609 1375-2 (3 CDs)

**Tamerlano**  
MDG 609 1457-2 (3 CDs)

**Giulio Cesare**  
MDG 1604-2 (3 CDs)

**Alessandro Severo**  
MDG 609 1674-2 (3 CDs)

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