



artists: The City Musick
 William Lyons, director
title: The Topping Tooters of the Town:
 Music of the London Waits 1580 – 1650
price: Full price
release date: 6 October 2017
selection number: AV 2364
bar code: 822252236422

about the release

“Why these are the city waits, who play every winter's night through the streets to rouse each lazy drone to family duty. These are the topping tooters of the town, and have gowns, silver chains, and salaries, for playing ‘Lilliburlero’ to my Lord Mayor's horse through the city.” This 1709 reference to a professional band of musicians conjures the thriving city of London in the 16th and 17th centuries. The band’s sound is replicated on this

release by the modern-day namesake **The City Musick** directed by foremost expert in the field **William Lyons** (who is also director of the Grammy-nominated Dufay Collective). The drones of dulcians and cornetts, sackbuts and shawms, evoke the era’s civic events, theatrical productions and liturgical services, paying homage to the unsung talents of the Waits from the period when their reputation was at its zenith.

The City Musick was formed to explore the diverse repertoire of civic and court wind players in 16th and 17th century Europe and is now firmly established as the premier renaissance wind band in the UK. After its debut USA tour in 2009, including a performance at the reconstructed Blackfriars Playhouse in Staunton, Virginia, the ensemble has performed for traditional feasts and ceremonies in the City of London, at the York Early Music Festival, and in Florence and Antwerp. The City Musick made their BBC Proms debut in 2012 with a performance of Venetian music in collaboration with I Fagiolini. The resulting Decca recording and that of the Striggio Mass, also involving the ensemble, have both met with great critical acclaim.

summary

The City Musick, directed by William Lyons, replicates the thriving 16th and 17th century wind band, the London Waits, with dulcians, cornets, sackbuts and shawms evoking the era’s civic events, theatrical productions and liturgical services.

tracklist

Anthony Holborne (c.1545 – 1602)

1. The Night Watch (1.19)

John Adson (c.1585 – 1640)

2. The Bull Maske (Courtly Masquing Ayre 18) (1.23)

3. Courtly Masquing Ayre 20 (1.27)

4. Courtly Masquing Ayre 21 (1.04)

Peter Philips (c.1560 – 1628)

5. Pavane Dolorosa (3.37)

6. Galliard Dolorosa (1.42)

Anon. arr. William Lyons

7. The Quadran Pavan (1.16)

8. Turkeyloney (1.28)

9. The Earl of Essex Measures (1.25)

10. Tinternell (1.17)

11. The Old Almains (1.36)

12. The Queen’s Alman (1.08)

Anthony Holborne

13. The Cecilia Almains (1.33)

Anon. arr. Lyons

14. The Black Almains (1.47)

Thomas Morley (c.1557 – 1602)

15. See, see, myne owne sweet jewell (1.35)

16. Hould out my hart (1.44)

17. Crewell you pull away too soone (1.43)

John Dowland (1563 – 1626)

18. Psalm 100: All people that on earth do dwell (2.28)

Richard Allison (c.1560 – c.1610)

19. Psalm 68: Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered (2.51)

Simon Stubbs (fl.1616 – 21)

20. Psalm 149: Sing ye unto the Lord our God (1.53)

Thomas Ravenscroft (1590 – 1633)

21. Psalm 117: O praise the Lord, all ye nations (1.22)

Anthony Holborne

22. Paradizo (2.19)

23. The Lullabie (2.29)

24. The Cradle (1.14)

John Playford (1623 – 1686/7)

25. Pauls Wharf (1.39)

Valentin Haussmann (c.1560 – c.1614)

26. All ye who love (1.53)

John Playford arr. Lyons

27. Lilliburlero (0.59)

28. Maiden Lane (1.03)

29. Halfe Hannikin (0.55)

30. Sellengers Rownde (1.23)

Recorded 2–5 September 2015, St Georges Church, Chesterton, Cambridge, UK
 Producer & Recording engineer: Adrian Hunter

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

media targets

Classical, Early Music

advertising

Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Facebook, Twitter

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Gramophone, BBC Music Magazine, Early Music Today, Early Music Review

airplay

BBC Radio 3, NPR

key territories

UK, US, Benelux

listening link

<https://soundcloud.com/usicompanyinternationaltd/sets/the-topping-tooters-of-the-town-music-of-the-london-waits-1580-1650>

lead / instant grat tracks

Track 1 – The Night Watch (Anthony Holborne)

Track 10 – Tinternell (Anon., arr. Lyons)

Track 27 – Lilliburlero (John Playford, arr. Lyons)

social media

The City Musick: Facebook – 362; Twitter – 400

AVIE Records: Facebook – 900; Twitter – 1,420

independent pr

n/a