



CHÂTEAU DE VERSAILLES SPECTACLES



©Photo: Chris Christodoulou

Vespro della Beata Vergine

CLAUDIO MONTEVERDI

CONCERT 2014

ULTRA HD AND HDTV

Musical composition by
Claudio Monteverdi (1610)

Musical direction: Sir John Eliot Gardiner

FILMED AT Chapelle Royale – Château de Versailles

IN March 2014

TV DIRECTOR: Stéphan Aubé

RUNNING TIME: 1x115'

WAHOO



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Vespro della Beata Vergine

ARTISTIC INFORMATION

SYNOPSIS

In 1610, Monteverdi gave his *Vespers for the Virgin* in Mantova, before conquering Saint-Mark's Basilica in Venice. It is the first great religious masterpiece of baroque. It has remained one of the key works in the universal musical heritage. After the genius of *Orfeo* (1607) the *Vespers* use its opening fanfare again and confirm Monteverdi as the main composer of his time.

Gardiner conducted this work for the first time in 1964 and recorded it twice. It is for this work that he founded the Monteverdi Choir, one of the best choirs in the world, with which he recorded more than 200 CDs and conducted more than 3000 concerts, among which the integral of the Bach Cantatas in one year (in 2000, for the 250th anniversary of Bach's death). His international reputation has brought him to conduct the greatest works of the lyrical repertoire (from Mozart to Bizet or Verdi), but he wishes to come back to Monteverdi, his source, for the 50th anniversary of the Monteverdi Choir.

In the Royal Chapel, Gardiner wishes to find again the musical space which characterizes Venetian music, by using its specific architecture and different levels, where in the past musicians and singers stood on the first level tribune, above the altar, around the organ, facing the royal loggia, from where the king listened to his Maître de Chapelle during services. The division in two choirs of Monteverdi's work, but also the many musical dialogues and the echo effects will find an ideal setting in this architecture. The *Vespers* concert in 2010 left such vivid memories, that we proposed to John Eliot Gardiner to make a video of the 2014 concert. A unique encounter between Gardiner, Monteverdi and Versailles.

PERFORMERS

Silvia Frigato, *soprano* | Emanuela Galli, *soprano* | Raffaele Pè, *alto* | Krystian Adam, *tenor* | Nicholas Mulroy, *tenor* | Gareth Tresseder, *tenor* | Alexander Ashworth, *bass* | Robert Davies, *bass* | Monteverdi Choir | English Baroque Soloists | Les Pages du Centre de musique baroque de Versailles

ARTISTIC STAFF

Musical direction: Sir John Eliot Gardiner

PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION COMPANIES Wahoo production, Château de Versailles Spectacles, Château de Versailles, with the participation of France Télévisions and the support of the CNC

ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS Frédéric Allain - Odile Carlotti

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION COMPANY Telmondis Distribution

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VIDEO FORMAT: Ultra High Definition – Binaural sound, HDCAM

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