



06/09-(6)

Title:

Virtuoso Harpsichord Music
Sons of J. S. Bach:
Wilhelm Friedemann,
Carl Philipp Emanuel,
Johann Christoph Friedrich
and Johann Christian Bach

Musician:

Waldemar Döling, harpsichord

1 CD

Order Number:

MDG 605 0100-2

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An audiophile classic emerges from the treasure vault of the recording past just in time for the three hundredth anniversary of the birth of Wilhelm Friedemann Bach. On this historic recording, now being released for the first time on CD, the internationally renowned harpsichordist Waldemar Döling performs the acclaimed Sonata in D major of 1745 and other virtuosic keyboard pieces on an instrument by Egbert Sassmann. These compositions by Bach's eldest (and, for many, most genial) son are complemented by works by his composing brothers.

Lasting Impact

On the threshold between the baroque and classical eras, the interaction between the Bach sons and subsequent generations of composers was rich and varied. Carl Philipp Emanuel exerted the strongest and most lasting impact, with both Haydn and Beethoven speaking of him with the greatest admiration. The influence of Johann Christian on Mozart is also clearly documented. Johann Christoph Friedrich, the so-called Bückeburg Bach, was evidently inspired by Mozart; he composed his eighteen variations on the popular song "Ah, vous dirai-je Maman" shortly after the famous Salzburg composer.

Lifelong Commitment

Waldemar Döling occupied himself with the music of the Bach family throughout his life. After a comprehensive musical education (conducting, harpsichord, percussion) in Detmold he was active as a solo timpanist and concurrently began his career as a harpsichordist. He performed with Tibor Varga and with other renowned ensembles on all the world's leading stages. In 1973 he returned to the Detmold College of Music as a harpsichord and percussion professor, remaining true to this institution until his retirement in 1999. He died three years later.

Scintillating Virtuosity

The first release of this recording met with enthusiasm from the press and public alike: "A scintillating treat for harpsichord lovers" (*Audio*); "A praiseworthy recording of immaculate, spirited virtuosity" (*Musikmarkt*); "A very fine disc, impassioned in various respects" (*Bruxelles-Europe*).