

PLAYS ON ALL CD- AND SACD- PLAYER



Press-Info:

MUSIC FOR TWO ORGANS
The Viennese Habsburg Court of the 17th Century

Priuli • Valentini • Ebner • Froberger • Kerll • Poglietti • Teichmann • Leopold I.

David Blunden & Johannes Strobl, Orgel
Choralschola Cappella Murensis
Bossart organs from 1743, Abbey Church of Muri



The present SACD – recorded in the Abbey Church of Muri, which was founded by the forefathers of the Habsburgs – is dedicated to the organ music at the Viennese Habsburg Court of the 17th century. Leopold's father and grandfather had already given music important status in their running of the Court. With the practicing musician Leopold I (1640 -1705), who often led rehearsals and performances himself, the Viennese *Hofkapelle* (Court Chapel) became one of the most significant European music institutions of the time. Important musicians such as Johann Jakob Froberger, Johann Kaspar Kerll, and Alessandro Poglietti found employment in Vienna as Court Organists. A selection of their compositions is presented here as well as additional works from the baroque and early Baroque period by Priuli, Valentini, Ebner and Teichmann and by Emperor Leopold I himself.

Alongside genuine organ works the recording also contains intabulations of double-choir motets and canzonas. With these arrangements, the two organists Johannes Strobl and David Blunden tie in with the tradition of their historical predecessors and can present the two magnificent Bossart organs from the year 1743 in the Abbey Church of Muri both as solo and duetting instruments in excellent fashion.

Sources from the music archive of the Vienna Minorite Monastery give evidence for the time around 1700 that Gregorian chant was not sung *a cappella*, but with organ accompaniment. This practice, which is hardly ever observed today, is taken into consideration in this recording.

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