

Bodinus *Musicalisches Divertissement IV*

Toutes Suites, Marianne R. Pfau dir 58' 50"

Genuin Musikproduktion GEN 89528

Another composer to add to your list of lesser-knowns with an anniversary in 2009: Sebastian Bodinus (c.1700-1758). He was initially a promising singer and oboist, but breathing problems drove him to learn the violin, which he mastered well enough to publish several books of solo sonatas. He seems not to have led a particularly happy life (despite the boundless energy and charm of the six trio sonatas for oboes on this disc) and died in an asylum. Toutes Suites are a German group of three (yes three!) oboists, bassoon, violone and harpsichord. The oboists swap roles and take turns about so that the music is equally shared – it's no disrespect to them that I say I could not really tell the difference between one line-up and another; I suspect that's actually the supreme compliment. The real winner here is Bodinus – the only previous CD worthy of mention is the cpo set of the third part of the same publication (six delightful quartets), so this is a genuinely welcome addition to the catalogue. BC

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