

## FOREWORD

“Go to him to learn how to achieve great effects, by such simple means.” No less than Beethoven said this of Handel, highlighting one of the qualities that have made the music of this late Baroque genius wildly popular for centuries. Yet for all their simplicity, the works that showcase Handel’s brilliance—his oratorios and operas—are rich with dramatic strength and lyrical beauty. This collection is a modest attempt to utilize the power of two separate keyboards for the exploration of the great sense of melody on display in those works. In the hands of a lesser composer, the character of Handel’s music could be lost, but in the skillful hands of the Gilbert M. Martin, these masterworks shine.

Please remember that two copies are required for performance.

—The Publisher

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### Level Descriptions

**Level 1:** Easy to moderately easy rhythmically and in technical demands  
Organ: 2-staff format with limited (often optional) pedaling  
Piano: Hands mostly in the middle of the keyboard

**Level 2:** Intermediate to moderate difficulty with a variety of musical styles  
Organ: 3-staff format; use of pedal is not optional, but not too demanding  
Piano: Expanded range and more rhythmically demanding

**Level 3:** Advanced musically and in technical demands  
Organ: 3-staff format; pedal is integral, often independent  
Piano: Use of full keyboard, scale and arpeggio passages; stylistically demanding