MUSIC FOR THE ROYAL FIREWORKS



GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

ARRANGED FOR ORGAN BY DAN MILLER



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MUSIC FOR THE ROYAL FIREWORKS

La Réjouissance (The Rejoicing)



Music for the Royal Fireworks, an orchestral suite in five movements by George Frideric Handel, premiered in London on April 27, 1749. The work was commissioned for performance at an outdoor festival celebrating the end of the War of the Austrian Succession (1740–48). Its first performance preceded a fireworks display. Handel scored the music for 9 trumpets, 9 horns, 24 oboes, 12 bassoons, 1 contrabassoon, 1 serpent, 6 kettledrums, and 2 side drums, and he later added strings for the first indoor performance.

A public rehearsal of this work (without fireworks) was one of Handel's greatest triumphs, drawing a paying crowd of 12,000 and causing one of London's first traffic jams. Six days later, the concert was a success. However, the firework display following the concert was a disaster: the weather was rainy, causing many misfires, one which set a pavilion on fire. A stray rocket burned a woman's clothes and other fireworks burned two soldiers and blinded a third. Yet another soldier's hand was blown off during an earlier rehearsal of the 101 firework cannons.

La Réjouissance is the best-known movement from the Fireworks Music Suite. This arrangement features pipe organ stops, orchestral brass, and timpani.

SUGGESTED ORGAN REGISTRATIONS

Please adjust for your taste and the organ's balance of ensemble.

Gen. Sw: Flutes 8' and 2'

Gt: Principal chorus 8', 4', 2' Ped: 16' + 8' to balance

Gen. 2 Sw: Principal chorus 8', 4', 2', Mixture

Gt: Principal chorus 8', 4', 2', Mixture, Swell to Great

Ped: 16' and 8' plus Timpani

Gen. 3 Sw: Orchestral Trumpet

Gt: Principal 8', Octave 4'

Ped: 16′ + 8′, Timpani

Gen. 4 Add to General 3:

Sw: Principal Chorus 8', 4', 2', IV, Oboe 8'

Gt: 16', 2', Mixture

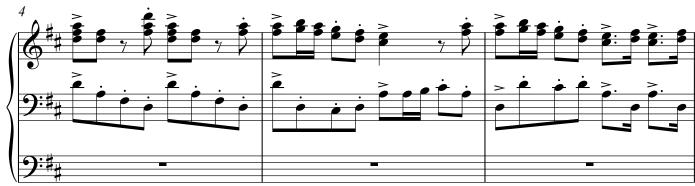
Ped: full to balance; Timpani

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IV. La Réjouissance (The Rejoicing)

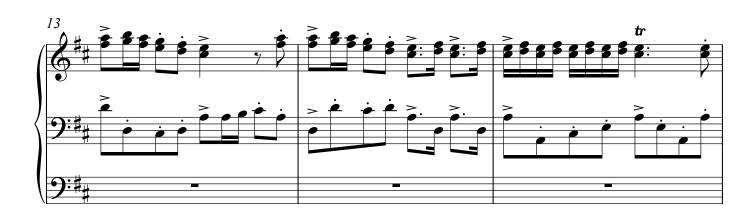
George Frideric Handel (HWV 351) transcribed and arranged for organ by Dan Miller (ASCAP)

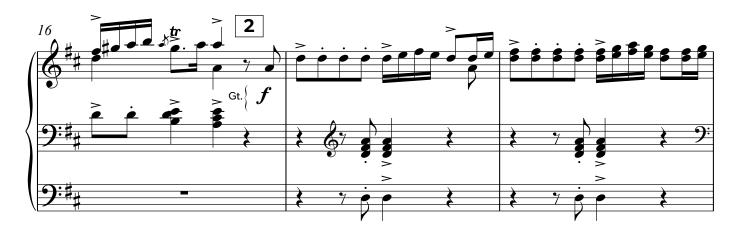


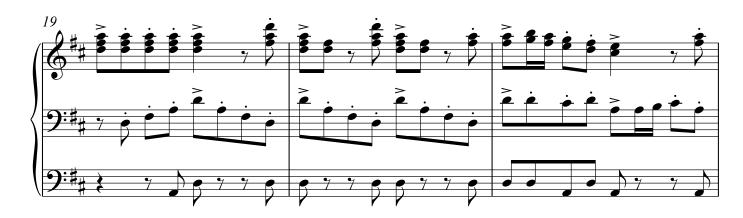












Music for the Royal Fireworks: The Rejoicing - Handel













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RODGERS INSTRUMENTS US LLC

8117 NE Jacobson Street, Building 7, Suite D-200 Hillsboro, OR 97124 **phone** 503.648.4181 **web** www.rodgersinstruments.com

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