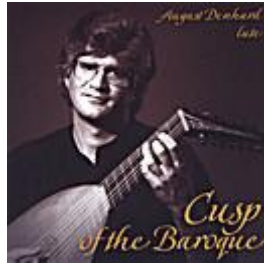


Mp3 August Denhard - Cusp Of The Baroque



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August Denhard performs solo lute music from England, France, and Italy written during the transition from the Renaissance to the Baroque period. 19 MP3 Songs CLASSICAL: Traditional, FOLK: Traditional Folk Details: Cusp of the Baroque cusp (ksp) n. A point or pointed end. [Lat. cuspis.] Music historians have settled on the year 1600 as the official ending of the Renaissance and beginning of the Baroque period. Change however, usually occurs incrementally, so a musical slice through the year 1600 reveals a very wide range of styles, many of which would eventually be reflected in the music of the later Baroque. What better instrument for this surgical experiment than the lute, which crossed all borders and genres and was hailed as the most popular instrument of its day. By 1600 the lute was in the hands of more people than at any time in history. Its devotees ranged from highly paid professionals who penned their own virtuoso compositions, accomplished wealthy amateurs who often studied with the leading lutenist/composers of the day, and rank beginners who purchased the many low priced collections of popular music and dances transcribed for lute. By 1600 most of the characteristics of Renaissance are contained in the solo lute repertoire, such as learned polyphony (Dowlands Preludium), the borrowing of popular and folk melodies (Allysons Goe from My Wyndowe), and the formalized grouping of dances (Fortune My Foe, Lady Laitons Almain, and Mrs. Winters Jump). Baroque ideas abound also, with improvisations as wild as the inventions of the Italian violin composers (Kapspergers Tocatta), the dominance and ensuing variety of French dances (the dances by Vallet), and the grouping of movements by key and even sometimes by motive (Ballards Branles de la Village). August Denhard, Lute August Denhard has directed performances for Ardo Opera and the Bloomington Early Music Festival. Works to his credit include John Blow's Venus and Adonis, Claudio Monteverdi's Madrigali Guerrieri et Amorosi and L'Incoronazione di Poppea, and Toms Torrejn de Velascos La Purpura de la Rosa. In Seattle he is

the director of the co-director Continuo Ensemble, a community ensemble devoted to 17th-century vocal music. As a performer on lute, theorbo and Baroque guitar, he has appeared with the Baroque Northwest, Chicago Music of the Baroque, the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra and Seattle Baroque. In addition, he is a founding member of the Baroque trio Liaison and Naked Fifth. Both groups were named as finalists in the 2000 Dorian/Early Music America Recording Competition. This recording was made possible by a residency through the Artist Support Program Jack Straw Productions in Seattle, Washington.

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