

Music of the Allies – from the Peninsular to Waterloo

The Bate Military Ensemble

Obviously this CD should have been released two years ago, before the commemorations for the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. Unfortunately a series of disasters and personal tragedies have caused it to be delayed.

The Bate Collection at Oxford University comprises a unique assembly of vintage or antique European musical instruments. It is such a fine collection of early 'classical' instruments, plus the musicians such an archive attracts, which have combined to make this recording possible.

Whilst countless books have been written about almost all aspects of the period, very little has been done to re-create the authentic music. It was quite different to what evolved later.

At this time, apart from sometimes a single valve-less trumpet and/or bugle, there was a predominance of woodwind, or similar sounding, instruments. These recordings have been made using historic instruments which included a Guards regiment drum, the Life Guards Bugle and a Serpent of the 23rd Regt, all used at Waterloo.

The 26 tracks include a selection of music of the English, Scottish & Irish regiments of the British Army, besides Portuguese, Netherlands, Brunswick & Hanoverian marches and a quadrille from the Duchess of Richmond's Ball. These are introduced with a narration by the eminent military music historian and broadcaster, Major Richard Powell.

<http://www.bate.ox.ac.uk/bate-launches-new-compact-disc-music-of-the-allies.html>

The price of the CD is £10.50, excluding postage & packing.

<http://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk/product-catalogue/music-faculty-bate-collection/cds>

Bulk rates are available for military and music museums.

Copies of these CD's may be purchased through the Curator, Andrew W Lamb at :

The Bate Collection, The Faculty of Music, Saint Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1DB

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