

Beethoven - Christus am Ölberge (Wangenheim)

Written by bluesever

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1. Christus am Ölberge No. 1. Introduction (Grave - Adagio) 2. Christus am Ölberge No. 1. Recit: Jehova, du mein Vater! 3. Christus am Ölberge No. 1. Aria: Meine Seele ist erschüttert 4. Christus am Ölberge No. 2. Recit: Erzittre, Erde, Jehova's Sohn liegt hier! 5. Christus am Ölberge No. 2. Aria: Preist, preist des Erlösers Güte 6. Christus am Ölberge No. 2. Chorus & Solo: O Heil euch, ihr Erlösten 7. Christus am Ölberge No. 2. Doch weh! die frech entehren 8. Christus am Ölberge No. 3. Recit: Verkündet, Seraph, mir dein Mund... 9. Christus am Ölberge No. 3. Duet: So ruhe denn mit ganzer Schwere 10. Christus am Ölberge No. 4. Recit: Willkommen, Tod! 11. Christus am Ölberge No. 4. Chorus: Wir haben ihn gesehen 12. Christus am Ölberge No. 5. Recit: Die mich zu fangen ausgezogen sind... 13. Christus am Ölberge No. 5. Chorus: Hier ist er, der Verbannte 14. Christus am Ölberge No. 6. Recit: Nicht ungestraft soll der Verwegnen Schar... 15. Christus am Ölberge No. 6. Trio: Im meinen Adern wühlen gerechter Zorn und Wuth 16. Christus am Ölberge No. 6. Chorus & Solo: Auf! auf! ergreift den Verräther 17. Christus am Ölberge No. 6. Chorus: Welten singen Dank und Ehre... Preiset ihn, ihr Cristina Deutekom - Seraph Nicolai Gedda - Jesus Hans Sotin - Peter Philharmonischer Chor der Stadt Bonn Chor des Theaters der Stadat Bonn Orchester der Beethovenhalle, Bonn Volker Wangenheim - conductor, 1969/70

Beethoven's Christ on the Mount of Olives is rarely performed or recorded, and is often criticized for its mixture of operatic and oratorio forms (which are not so different to begin with). However, it's a wonderful little piece that has more affinities with Mozart's Magic Flute than Bach's Passions. It includes a lovely duet (gorgeously sung here by Gedda and Deutekom), an even better trio, a neat little fugue, and an awesome choral number depicting the Roman soldiers capturing Jesus, which sounds like a German drinking song! Gedda sings a heroic Jesus with a voice that is both powerful and mellifluous. His performance is itself worth the price of the CD. Sotin and Deutekom (one of the most under-appreciated sopranos on record) are also excellent, and the orchestral playing conducted by Wangenheim is extremely spirited. Needless to say, I highly recommend this recording. --- Jason Siegel "El Rey de las Llantas" (Madison, WI)

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