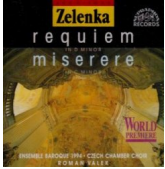


Zelenka - Requiem in D minor & Miserere in C minor (1995)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 20 April 2011 18:45 - Last Updated Wednesday, 09 July 2014 19:30

Zelenka - Requiem in D minor & Miserere in C minor (1995)



1. *Requiem In d, ZWV 48: Introitus-Kyrie* 2. *Requiem In d, ZWV 48: Sequentia-Dies irae* 3. *Requiem In d, ZWV 48: Offertorium* 4. *Requiem In d, ZWV 48: Sanctus* 5. *Requiem In d, ZWV 48: Benedictus - Ens Baroque 1994/Czech Chamber Choir/Valek* 6. *Requiem In d, ZWV 48: Agnus Dei* 7. *Requiem In d, ZWV 48: Communio-Lux aeterna - Ens Baroque 1994/Czech Chamber Choir/Valek* 8. *Miserere In c, Psalm 50, ZWV 57 - Anna Hlavenkova Czech Chamber Chorus Ensemble Baroque 1994 Roman Valek – conductor*

The Requiem, to quote the liner notes, was commissioned to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the death of Austrian Emperor Joseph I by his daughter Maria Josepha. Zelenka used a very somber and solemn tone throughout, structuring the work upon a Mass. Composed of seven different fugues bound together by the theme of mourning, it is typical early Zelenka; excellent. The oboe work is fantastic, solemn and appropriate. There is even a brief solo appearance by Violons, Zelenka's personal instrument. If you liked his Trio Sonatas you will enjoy this piece.

A most poignant note about the Requiem. The original manuscript was thought lost in the Dresden Firebombings. According to the liner notes, a copy was found in Prague and was corrected by scores found in archives located in Slovakia. The work was premiered again in 1988. The Requiem is a miracle piece which reappeared in a time when it would be given its due. The Miserere is a later work and sounds operatic in a more modern sense. It more closely resembles the late masses than the early works such as the Trio Sonatas. As such it is also excellent. Both pieces were realized by Baroque Ensemble 1994. I hope that they have done other works which I can seek out and enjoy. I recommend this work without reservation.

---GeneH, amazon.com

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