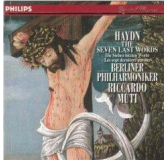


Joseph Haydn - The Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the Cross (Riccardo Muti) [1992]

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Joseph Haydn - The Seven Last Words of Our Saviour on the Cross (Riccardo Muti) [1992]



1 Introduction 2 Sonata I. "Father Forgive Them; For They Know Not What They Do" 3 Sonata II. "Amen, I Say To You: Today You Will Be With Me In Paradise" 4 Sonata III. "Woman, Behold Your Son: And You Behold Thy Mother" 5 Sonata IV. God, God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?" 6 Sonata V. "I Thirst" 7 Sonata VI. "It Is Finished" 8 Sonata VII. "Father, Into Thy Hands I Commit My Spirit" 9 Earthquake
Berliner Philharmoniker
Riccardo Muti – conductor

In 1785, the Cathedral of Cádiz commissioned Haydn to write seven orchestral interludes, to be performed during Holy Week services between the bishop's recitation of Jesus' seven last words, plus an introduction and an epilogue depicting the earthquake after His death. Though Haydn later complained about the difficulty of composing eight consecutive slow movements that would not "fatigue the listener," but "produce the deepest impression...in his soul," he succeeded magnificently. The work is surely one of his great masterpieces. Originally scored for full orchestra, he arranged it for string quartet (the most familiar version), for piano, and subsequently also for soloists, chorus and orchestra on a text by Baron van Swieten.

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