LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Op. 123

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Missa Solemnis in D

FOR FOUR SOLO VOICES, CHORUS
AND ORCHESTRA

DEDICATED TO ARCHDUKE RUDOLPH

ARCHBISHOP OF OLMÜTZ

VOCAL SCORE
EDITED BY JULIUS STERN
WITH A PREFATORY REMARK BY
HERMANN KRETZSCHMAR
ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS BY
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PREFATORY REMARK

MONG the innumerable musical settings of the words of the Catholic High Mass, Bach's Mass in B minor and Beethoven's Missa Solemnis form grand and phenomenal exceptions. Both are distinguished by an exuberance which deviates from ecclesiastical observances and traditions—in Bach through the broad formal design, and still more in Beethoven through the free subjective conception of important passages. In this mass, which he himself designates as his greatest and most successful work, Beethoven engages his full powers as a man and an artist with the extreme of zealous and devotional intensity. And so it stands, at once the most imposing monument of his marvelous genius, and one of the grandest and mightiest manifestations of deep religious feeling which the nineteenth century can show.

Moreover, the Missa Solemnis is one of the most difficult works in modern musical art. Its difficulty lies less in the dreaded technical demands of the music, unusually trying in the case of the vocal parts, than in the style. Easy, instantly intelligible, and profoundly moving, are the Kyrie and SanEtus, in the latter more especially the heavenly inspiration of the Benedittus. The Agnus Dei, on the whole, is also easy up to the passage where Beethoven suddenly breaks in upon the prayer for peace (dona nobis pacem) with sounds of war, thereby so terrifying the souls seeking for grace, that in their fright and despair they cry out for mercy (miserere). On the contrary, the great movements of the Gloria and Credo are difficult, because, although welded together by powerful principal themes, they unfold a great variety of pictures, making—in some instances by reason of their brevity and conciseness, in others because of subtility of conception or the enthusiastic intensification of ever-changing developments—extraordinary demands on the receptivity and psychical cooperation of the listener. Only thorough study, aided—conditions permitting—by a careful explanation, unveil the full grandeur and beauty of the Mass.

Ludwig van Beethoven (born at Bonn, December 17, 1770; died in Vienna, March 26, 1827) began the composition of the Mass in the year 1818, upon the publication of the appointment of the Archduke Rudolph, his pupil, as Archbishop of Olmütz. It was originally intended for the celebration of the primate's official installation; but, as Beethoven's devotion to his task was scarcely to be satisfied, it was finished only in 1822, and the final improvements not until 1823. Beethoven offered the manuscript score to numerous European courts and prominent musicians for the sum of fifty ducats. Subscribers were few; Zelter wanted an arrangement for voices alone. Later the work was printed page by page with the Ninth Symphony (op. 123) as op. 124. In Vienna, after its completion, only detached movements were brought out

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in concerts; the first complete performance, effected by Prince Galitzin at St. Petersburg in 1824, like the next-following in Warnsdorf (Bohemian Lusatia) in 1830, and London, made no lasting impression. It was not until after the Rhenish Musical Festival of 1844 at Cologne and (since 1860) thanks to the endeavors of the Allgemeiner Deutscher Musikverein that the popularization of the Missa Solemnis has proceeded more rapidly.

HERMANN KRETZSCHMAR

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MISSA SOLEMNIS

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

Op. 123

The Text arranged so as to be studied by the Members of the Oratorio Society

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison! Christe eleison!

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis.

Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te.

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex cœlestis! Deus Pater omnipotens!

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Domine, Fili unigenite, Jesu Christel

Domine Deus! Agnus Dei! Filius Patris!

Qui tollis peccata mundi!

miserere nobis; suscipe deprecationem nostram.

Oui sedes ad dexteram Patris.

miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe!

cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris.

Amen.

CREDO

Credo in unum Deum,
patrem omnipotentem,
factorem cœli et terræ
visibilium omnium et invisibilium.

Credo in unum Dominum Jesum Christum,

Filium Dei unigenitum;

et ex Patre natum ante omnia sæcula.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us! Christ have mercy upon us!

GLORIA

Glory be to God on high, and peace on earth to men of good will.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, We adore Thee, we glorify Thee.

We give Thee thanks for Thy great glory.

O Lord God! O heavenly King!

O God, the Father Almighty!

O Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son!

O Lord God! Lamb of God! Son of the Father!

O Thou, who takest away the sins of the world!

have mercy upon us; receive our prayer.

O Thou, who sittest at the right hand of the Father!

have mercy upon us.

For Thou alone art holy,
Thou alone art Lord, Thou alone art
most high, O Jesus Christ!

together with the Holy Ghost, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

CREDO

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God;

and born of the Father before all ages.

Deum de Deo, Lumen de Lumine:

Deum verum de Deo vero:

Genitum, non factum; consubstantialem Patri, per quem omnia facta sunt;

Qui propter nos homines, et propter nostram salutem, descendit de cœlis,

et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Virgine, et homo factus est.

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis; sub Pontio Pilato passus et sepultus est.

Et resurrexit tertia die, secundum Scripturas.

Et ascendit in cœlum, sedet ad dexteram Patris.

Et iterum venturus est cum gloria judicare vivos et mortuos; cujus regni non erit finis.

Credo in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum et vivificantem, qui ex Patre Filioque procedit;

qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur; qui locutus est per prophetas.

Credo in unam sanctam Catholicam et Apostolicam Ecclesiam.

Confiteor unum Baptisma in remissionem peccatorum.

Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum, et vitam venturi sæculi.

Amen.

SANCTUS

Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt cœli et terra gloria tua.

Osanna in excelsis!

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini!

Osanna in excelsis!

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,

miserere nobis, dona nobis pacem.

January, 1914

God of Gods, Light of Light, true God of true God;

begotten, not made; consubstantial to the Father, by Whom all things were made;

Who for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven,

and became incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

He was crucified also for us; suffered under Pontius Pilate and was buried.

And the third day He arose again according to the Scriptures.

And ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of the Father.

And He is to come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; of whose kingdom there shall be no end.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;

Who, together with the Father and the Son, is adored and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets.

I believe in one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the remission of sins.

And I expect the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

SANCTUS

Holy is the Lord God Sabaoth.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy Glory.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who cometh in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us, grant us peace.

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