

NANTWICH AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY

MARKET DRAYTON CHORAL SOCIETY

MANCHESTER MOZART ORCHESTRA

⟨ LEADER FAY CAMPEY ⟩



MASS IN B MINOR

BY

J.S. BACH

SOLOISTS:

VANESSA SCOTT

VANESSA WILLIAMSON

ERIC BASKEYFIELD

CHRISTOPHER UNDERWOOD

CONDUCTOR:

EDWARD HEWISON

NANTWICH CIVIC HALL SUNDAY MARCH 22ND 8.17.30 P.M.

ADMISSION BY PROGRAMME £2.50

STUDENTS/SENIOR CITIZENS £1.50

MASS IN B MINOR

J S BACH
(1685-1750)

As a Lutheran Bach was in the habit of setting to music only the Kyrie and Gloria sections of the Mass. Many commentators on the music of Bach have speculated, therefore, on why Bach in the B Minor Mass should add to the usual two sections to make a complete Mass, which, because of its length, could not possibly have been envisaged for practical use in worship. The consensus of opinion seems to suggest that it is an ideal work - a reflection of Bach's own religious faith.

The Kyrie and Gloria of the Mass were completed by 1733 and by c. 1739 the other sections were completed. About a quarter of the music is taken from earlier works, particularly cantatas, but superbly adapted to the overall structure of the B Minor Mass. In the Crucifixus (No. 16) for example, taken from Cantata No. 12, Bach transforms the ending from an original cadence in the home key, B minor, to an unexpected turn to G major, giving a tremendous depth of meaning to the words as well as causing the entry of the Et Resurrexit to be even more dramatic and uplifting. Indeed the whole work contains vivid imagery and deep insight into the words. The shape and balance of each section is marvellously judged as in the opening and closing choruses of the Kyrie and the use of plain-song in the opening and closing choruses of the Credo. The arias too are varied in instrumentation and rich in imagery. Note the unity between the Father and Son as the two voices sing in canonic style in Et in unum Dominum (No. 14).

The B Minor Mass remains one of the highest points in the history of Western music.

E. Hewison.

KYRIE.

1. Chorus	Kyrie eleison	Lord have mercy.
2. Duet	Christe eleison	Christ have mercy.
3. Chorus	Kyrie eleison	Lord have mercy.

GLORIA.

4. Chorus	Gloria in excelsis	Glory to God on high.....
5. Aria	Laudamus te	We praise you.....
6. Chorus	Gratias agimus	We give thanks to you.....
7. Duet	Domine Deus	O Lord God.....
8. Chorus	Qui tollis	You who take away the sins of the world.....
9. Aria	Qui sedes ad dexteram	You who sit to the right of the Father.....
10. Aria	Quoniam tu solus sanctus	For you only are holy.....
11. Chorus	Cum sancto spiritu	With the Holy Spirit.....

INTERVAL

CREDO.

12. Chorus	Credo in unum Deum	I believe in one God.
13. Chorus	Patrem omnipotentem	The Father almighty.....
14. Duet	Et in unum Dominum	And in one Lord.....
15. Chorus	Et incarnatus est	And was incarnate.....
16. Chorus	Crucifixus	And was crucified.....
17. Chorus	Et resurrexit	And on the third day he rose.....
18. Aria	Et in spiritum sanctum	And I believe in the Holy Spirit.....
19. Chorus	Confiteor unum baptisma	I acknowledge one baptism...

SANCTUS.

20. Chorus	Sanctus	Holy, holy, holy.....
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HOSANNA.

21. Chorus	Hosanna in excelsis	Hosanna in the highest.....
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BENEDICTUS.

22. Aria	Benedictus (Hosanna repeated)	Blessed is He.....
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AGNUS DEI.

23. Aria	Agnus Dei	Lamb of God.....
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DONA NOBIS PACEM.

24. Chorus	Dona nobis pacem	Grant us peace.
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The National Federation of Music Societies, to which the Nantwich and District Choral Society is affiliated, gives support towards the cost of this concert, with funds provided by the Arts Council of Great Britain.

The Societies also wish to acknowledge the assistance given by Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE INTERVAL.

NANTWICH AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

REHEARSALS: Wednesday evenings 7.30p.m. at Malbank School.

FOR DETAILS: Contact the Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Cornes.

Phone - Stone (Staffs) 814976

MARKET DRAYTON CHORAL SOCIETY.

REHEARSALS: Wednesday evenings 8.00p.m. at Shrewsbury Road

Methodist Church.

FOR DETAILS: Contact the Secretary, Mr. Herbert Knowles.

Phone - Market Drayton 2160