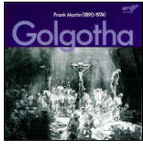


Chor der Philharmonie Schwäbisch Gmünd



Frank Martin: Golgotha

Frank Martin

2CD aud 21.401

[American Record Guide](#) 6/2001 (Philip Greenfield - 2001.11.01)



Frank Martin's take on the Passion of Jesus is an intense, deeply felt affair that's worthy of attention. Our editor, Don Vroon, described the piece in some detail this past March/April while giving a positive review to a performance conducted by Herbert Bock on Hanssler 98327.

This is an impressive performance; dark, emphatic, and extremely well paced by the conductor. All three male soloists sound uncomfortable when they hit the upper register; otherwise, they make a most affecting group. Baritone Joachim Gebhardt is admirably expressive in the Jesus recitatives, where Maestro Siemens accompanies him with the utmost sensitivity. The chorus is good too, especially in the more wrenching portions of the drama. There's one splatty bit in Part I where they don't interact well with the soloists. This was recorded in concert back in 1988, and there's nothing at all wrong with the sound. Virtually no audience noise either.

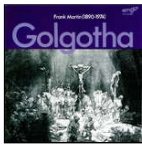
If you're going to get to know Golgotha, though, I think you'll probably be happier starting out with that Hanssler version. Not only is it very well done, it's sung in French-the composer's language of choice. This one is in German, and while Martin approved of the translation, it might be better to stick with the original as you get to know the piece. Hanssler also gives you notes and translations in four languages, one of them English. Here, it's German only, which could keep you at a distance from Martin's handiwork. But if you've already made the work's acquaintance and would like to know it better, these provincial German forces don't sound provincial in the least.

www.arkivmusic.com 26.06.2001 (- 2001.06.26)



This performance of this masterpiece of 20th century choral music was recorded...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.



Frank Martin: Golgotha

Frank Martin

2LP-120g aud 54.402

[American Record Guide](#) 6/2001 (Philip Greenfield - 2001.11.01)



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César Franck: The Seven Words of Christ at the Cross

César Franck

LP-120g aud 63.411

[American Record Guide](#) 5/2000 (Paul L. Althouse - 2000.09.01)



Don't be misled by the packaging. The liner gives the title in German (Die Sieben Worte Christi am Kreuz), but the work is in fact sung in Latin. It comes from 1859, a time when the composer was engaged with liturgical and religious music; in later life he restricted his composition to the orchestral and chamber music he is known for. The Seven Words was, for reasons unknown, not performed during Franck's lifetime, and in fact was not discovered until 1977. This performance dates from 1979, shortly after the discovery. Franck supplemented the traditional Seven Words with additional text, both biblical and free. His music is sweet and lyrical, rather Mendelssohnian in flavor (as is so much 19th Century church music), and free from Franck's penchant for incessant modulation. The overall effect is meditative, not dramatic, even in poignant sections like 'My God, why has thou forsaken me?'

The performance is certainly adequate for such a rare work. Most impressive is soprano Edith Wiens, who sounds terrific: full, rich, and expressive. A valuable release, then, for seeing another side of Franck and the state of church music in France around 1860.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung 22.03.1994 (Heribert Klein - 1994.03.22)



In himmlischen Händen – César Francks „Die Sieben Worte Christi am Kreuz“

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Hessischer Rundfunk 26.09.1993 (Manfred Wagner - 1993.09.26)



Von Reger zu César Franck. Audite veröffentlichte zwei geistliche Werke dieses...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

Luister November 1994 (W.B. - 1994.11.01)

LUISTER
TIJDSCHRIFT VOOR KLASSIEKE MUZIEK

Hier sehen wir, wie eine kleine Stadt groß sein kann. Es beweist...

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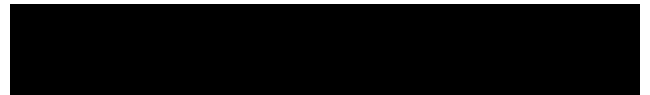
Musikmarkt 01.10.1993 (- 1993.10.01)

musikmarkt

Auf CD erhältlich ist nun auch ein 1979 entstandener Livemitschnitt von César...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

Neue Zürcher Zeitung 24.03.1994 (Ch. B. - 1994.03.24)



César Franck hat seinen Platz in der Musikgeschichte vor allem seiner...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

Württembergische Blätter für Kirchenmusik 4/1994 (Axel Hoock - 1994.07.01)



Obwohl César Franck von den Musikhistorikern als Haupt einer französischen...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

www.arkivmusic.com 30.05.2000 (- 2000.05.30)

ArkivMusic.eu
The Source for Classical Music

One of the most striking works from Cesar Franck's middle period is The Seven...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.



César Franck: Mass in A-Major op. 12

César Franck

CD aud 95.431

Württembergische Blätter für Kirchenmusik 4/1994 (Axel Hooch - 1994.07.01)



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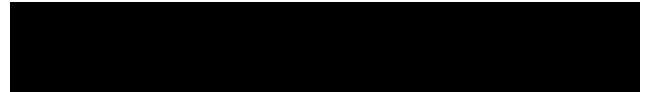
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Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

www.arkivmusic.com 29.10.2002 (- 2002.10.29)

ArkivMusic.eu
The Source for Classical Music

Cesar Franck, a naturalized Frenchman of Belgian and German descent who lived in...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

Luister November 1994 (W.B. - 1994.11.01)

LUISTER
TIJDSCHRIFT VOOR KLASIEKE MUZIEK

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Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

CD Compact Num. 169, octubre 2003 (José María Latorre - 2003.10.01)

Aunque la música religiosa de César Franck no ha alcanzado, hasta ahora,...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

ABC – Blanco y negro Cultural (Juan Manuel Viana - 2003.04.12)

ABC.es

La notoriedad de las últimas partituras instrumentales de César Franck ha...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.



César Franck: The Seven Words of Christ at the Cross

César Franck

CD aud 95.432

[American Record Guide](#) 5/2000 (Paul L. Althouse - 2000.09.01)



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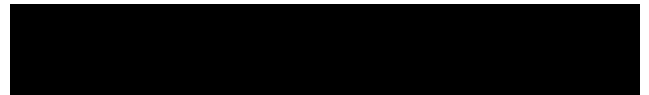
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Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

Scherzo Num 174, Abril 2003 (B.M. - 2003.04.01)



Un destino señaladamente enigmático acompaña a esta obra. Es sabido que...

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung 22.03.1994 (Heribert Klein - 1994.03.22)

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

In himmlischen Händen – César Franck's „Die Sieben Worte Christi am Kreuz“

In himmlischen Händen – César Franck's „Die Sieben Worte Christi am Kreuz“

Full review text restrained for copyright reasons.

Diverdi Magazin n° 169 (abril 2008) (Blas Matamoro - 2008.04.01)

DIVERDI.COM

Una recuperación franckiana

Audite graba Las siete palabras de Cristo en la cruz de Franck

Curiosa es, por demás, la historia de esta obra. No aparece registrada en el catálogo de su autor ni fue ejecutada en vida suya. Por otra parte, su inscripción en el campo religioso la sitúa en las primeras épocas de su producción ya que, no obstante pasar sus últimos cuarenta años como maestro de capilla y organista en la parisina iglesia de Santa Clotilde, abandonó el mundo de la composición piadosa.

Se sabe que la tarea de escribir estas Siete palabras de Cristo en la cruz concluyó en 1859 pero sólo se estrenaron en 1977, gracias a que el estudioso Armin Landgraf halló su manuscrito en la biblioteca de la Universidad de Lieja en 1975. La presente versión, primera mundial, fue tomada en vivo en la Santa Cruz de Gmünd, en 1979, y masterizada en 1993. Su aceptación entre el público aficionado propuso una merecida reedición.

Un Franck relativamente joven (37 años) supo montar un complejo dispositivo donde el juego polifónico es esencial y aparece resuelto con extrema habilidad. Sin duda, el ejemplo oratorio de Mendelssohn está presente y colabora para exaltar el aspecto dramático del asunto: las palabras finales que pronuncia el Dios encarnado, el Verbo hecho carne, mientras agoniza en su martirio. En su torno, el pueblo de Dios se muestra como multitud coral o como anónimos individuos que repiten, para los Tiempos, las memorables y patéticas sílabas del Redentor. Menos personal que otros aparatos comparables del mismo autor, devotos o profanos (Las beatitudes, Redención, Psyché), no dejan de ostentar, sin embargo, la segura y precisa mano de quien supo suscribir todos ellos.

CD Compact Num. 169, octubre 2003 (José María Latorre - 2003.10.01)

Aunque la música religiosa de César Franck no ha alcanzado, hasta ahora,...

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