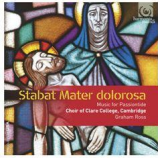


Stabat Mater Dolorosa - Music for Passiontide (2014)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 23 March 2018 11:26 -

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01. *Stabat Mater dolorosa* 02. *O vos omnes* 03. *Tristis et anima mea* 04. *O quam tristis et afflicta* 05. *In ieiunio et fletu* 06. *God so loved the world* 07. *Quis est homo qui non fleret* 08. *Caligaverunt oculi mei* 09. *Ut tecum lugeam* 10. *Pro peccatis suae gentis* 11. *The Reproaches* 12. *Eia, Mater, fons amoris* 13. *Crucifixus a 8* 14. *Sancta Mater, istud agas* 15. *Er nahm alles wohl in acht* 16. *Ave verum corpus* 17. *Fac me tecum pie flere* 18. *Salvator mundi I* 19. *Christus factus est* 20. *Virgo virginum praeclara* 21. *Ne irascaris/Civitas sancti tui* 22. *Fac me plagis vulnerari* 23. *Precor te, Domine* 24. *Christe, cum sit hinc exire* 25. *Ubi caritas* Clare College Choir, Cambridge Graham Ross - conductor

English collegiate choral recordings range from pure Renaissance traditional to crossover oriented, and this one by the Choir of Clare College, Cambridge, under Graham Ross lands right in the sweet spot with a sober but warm tone and a seriousness of intent that does not preclude contemporary compositions, including a pair by conductor Ross himself. The album is the second in a series by the choir devoted to events in the Anglican liturgical year; the first was an Advent disc, and this is entirely devoted to Passiontide, with the music linked together by Stabat mater chants. The polyphonic pieces range from Lassus and Victoria and Byrd to several layers of reimagining of the Renaissance style, from Antonio Lotti through Bruckner, Duruflé, and John Stainer up to the present day. The choir is engaged with the sound and spirit of the music and is capable of great power, even if its outdone in sheer pitch precision by some of its rivals. The easy crossover instincts of the likes of John Rutter are avoided, ironically so inasmuch as none other than Rutter is the producer of this release, and it must be said that he has exploited the ideal sound environment of London's All Hallows' Church to the hilt. In all, an unusually well-unified and persuasive choral release. ---James Manheim, AllMusic Review

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The second disc from the choir of Clare College, Cambridge in their series based on the major festivals in the Anglican calendar and, like 'Veni Emmanuel', produced by John Rutter. In this richly varied Passiontide sequence, polyphonic settings of the great texts of Holy Week are interwoven with a plainchant rendition of the mournful 'Stabat Mater': the traditional medieval poem meditating on the death of Jesus and the grief of his mother. ---arkivmusic.com

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