Written by bluesever Friday, 28 January 2011 09:40 - Last Updated Tuesday, 07 January 2014 20:08

Hans Werner Henze – Requiem (1994)



I. Introitus: Requiem 4:03 II. Dies Irae 7:19 III. Ave Verum 7:16 IV. Lux Aeterna 7:50 V. Rex Tremendae 7:20 VI. Agnus Dei 7:57 VII. Tuba Mirum 6:49 VIII. Lacrimosa 6:55 IX. Sanctus 7:29 Ueli Wiget – piano Håkan Hardenberger – trumpet Ensemble Modern Ingo Metzmacher – conductor

"I have evolved a concept of beauty nurtured by experiences both terrible and wonderful."

Henze pours his very soul in to this portrait. Interviewed at his home just outside Rome his life story is one of political protest and struggle in many guises. It is clear that his many experiences both terrible and wonderful are deep-dyed into the very fabric of his music.

Henze's dramatic and moving Requiem begins in gentle, tender mood and ends with a radiant, hymn-like Sanctus. It contains fierce and satirical passages, but also ones which express penetrating or suppressed sorrow.

"Essentially, he is always going to be an outsider...as a gay man, a liberal, growing up in the third Reich...as a person who is always somewhere else..." ---Sir Simon Rattle, naxos.com

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