

## Arvo Part - Litany (1995)

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1. *Litany* 2. *Psalom* 3. *Trisagion* Estonian Philharmonic Chamber Choir The Hilliard Ensemble Tallinn Chamber Orchestra Tõnu Kaljuste - conductor (1) Arvo Part (2) Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra Saulius Sondeckis – conductor (3)

With *Litany*, Estonian composer Arvo Pärt created one of his most stirring works: a nearly 23-minute-long composition for orchestra and vocal ensemble based on the 24 prayers of St. John Chrysostom (one for each hour of the day). Commissioned for the 25th Oregon Bach Festival, the composition is both memorable and timeless. It finds influences in everything from chant to the repetition of modern minimalism. Play it loudly and the striking vocals of the Hilliard Ensemble simply soar against the strings of the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra. The orchestral *Trisagion* harkens toward *Litany*'s mood swings and impact, but--sans voice--lacks the mysticism. One of Pärt's best, and as sacred as modern compositions come. ---Jason Verlinde, Editorial Review

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