

NAXOS

PÄRT: Berliner Messe

With a number of modern classics already to his name, notably the *Symphony No. 3* [Naxos 8.554591], *Tabula Rasa* [8.554591], *Fratres* and *Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten* [8.553750], culminating in 1982 with his largest work thus far, the *St John Passion* [8.555860], Arvo Pärt has during the past 20 years consolidated his reputation as one of the most significant composers at work today with a sequence of magnificent sacred choral works. The present recording provides an overview of Pärt's mature idiom with works written on either side of the *Passion*, and in which a gradual expressive opening-out and harmonic enrichment of the composer's musical vocabulary can be detected. The *Magnificat* is perhaps Pärt's most immediately appealing choral work whose alternation of solo and tutti sections imparts a powerful spiritual aura.

Arvo  
**PÄRT**  
(b. 1935)

1	Cantate Domino Canticum Novum (Psalm 95) (1977, rev. 1996)	3:27
	Berliner Messe (for choir and string orchestra) (rev. V/1992)	22:56
2	Kyrie	2:46
3	Gloria	3:57
4	Alleluia Verses I & II	2:00
5	Veni Sancte Spiritus	5:06
6	Credo	4:15
7	Sanctus	2:51
8	Agnus Dei	2:01
9	De Profundis (1980)	5:56
10	Summa (1977)	4:40
11	The Beatitudes (1990, rev. 1991)	7:51
12	Magnificat (1989)	7:22

Jurgen Petrenko, Organ

Elora Festival Singers and Orchestra • Noel Edison

Recorded at Grace Church on the Hill, Toronto, Canada from May 20th to 25th, 2003

Producers: Norbert Kraft and Bonnie Silver

Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver

Booklet Notes: Richard Whitehouse

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