

Premiered in 1951, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* was the first opera specifically composed for television, though Gian Carlo Menotti admitted that he had conceived it for the stage. The magical story tells of Amahl, a disabled boy who befriends the Three Kings when they stop at his house on their journey to see the newborn Jesus. Amahl decides to give his crutch to Jesus, at which point his leg is miraculously healed. Long a Christmas favourite, this new Viennese production, sung in German, boldly re-examines the story finding its key elements to be fantasy, empathy and the enduring power of love.

GIAN CARLO MENOTTI (1911–2007)

AMAHL UND DIE NÄCHTLICHEN BESUCHER

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Opera in one act (1951)

Libretto by the composer

Sung in a German translation by Kurt Honolka

Amahl

Amahl's Mother

King Kaspar

King Melchior

King Balthazar

TEMPU ISHIJIMA Soloist of the Vienna Boys Choir

DSHAMILJA KAISER

PAUL SCHWEINESTER

NIKOLAY BORCHEV

WILHELM SCHWINGHAMMER



Arnold Schoenberg Chor
Chorus Master ERWIN ORTNER

Wiener Symphoniker
Conductor MAGNUS LODDGARD

Stage Director STEFAN HERHEIM

Set and Costume Designer SEBASTIAN ELLRICH

Lighting Designer KARL WIEDEMANN

Choreographer BEATE VOLLACK

Dramaturge CHRISTIAN SCHRÖDER

Film Director GÖTZ FILENIUS

A production of VBW in cooperation with Naxos

Filmed on 17 and 18 December 2022 at MuseumsQuartier, Hall E, MusikTheater an der Wien, Vienna, Austria

www.naxos.com

Total playing time: 55 minutes

Language: German • Subtitles: German, English, Japanese, Korean

NTSC 16:9 • PCM Stereo and DTS Surround 5.1 • Region: 0 (worldwide) • DVD 5

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