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# J.S. BACH

(1685-1750)

Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam  
 Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra of New York\*  
 Willem Mengelberg (1871-1951)

Playing  
 Time  
**3:27:26**

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### St Matthew Passion (abridged)

Live recording, 2nd April, 1939

#### CD 1

[1]-[29] Part One 71:42

#### CD 2

[1]-[4] Part One (contd.) 20:53

[5]-[23] Part Two 41:53

#### CD 3

[1]-[11] Part Two (contd.) 28:42

[12]-[18] Suite No. 2 in B Minor, BWV 1067 21:23

Recorded 2nd June, 1931

[19] Air from Suite No. 3 in D major, BWV 1068 (arr. Mahler)\* 3:38

Recorded 16th January, 1929

[20] Air from Suite No. 3 in D major, BWV 1068 (arr. Telico) 4:23

Recorded 1st December, 1938

[21]-[23] Concerto in D minor for Two Violins, BWV 1010† 14:53

Recorded 24th June, 1935

Karl Erb, Tenor

Willem Ravelli, Bass

Jo Vincent, Soprano

Ilona Durigo, Alto

Louis van Tulder, Tenor

Herman Schey, Bass

Amsterdam Toonkunst

Choir

“Zanglust” Boys’ Choir

Piet van Egmond, Organ

Johannes den Hertog,

Harpsichord

Louis Zimmermann, Violin

G. Blanchard, Oboe

d’amore

W. Peddemors, Oboe

da caccia

Hubert Barwahser, Flute

Ferdinand Helman, Violin†

This famous Dutch Radio recording of Mengelberg’s 1939 Palm Sunday performance of the *St Matthew Passion*, an annual event over which he had presided in Amsterdam since 1899, is here presented in its entirety as originally released, filled out with the conductor’s complete commercial recordings of the works of J.S. Bach. If the performance upholds the old, monumental, romanticised tradition of Bach performing style, it nevertheless possesses a deeply felt spirituality, poignancy and commitment as if all concerned knew that it would be their last before the catastrophic events that overtook Europe in September 1939.

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Producer and Audio Restoration Engineer: Mark Obert-Thorn

A complete track and cast listing can be found inside the booklet

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Cover Photograph: Mengelberg during a performance with the  
 Concertgebouw Orchestra, Spring 1936

