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ADD

Johann Sebastian
BACH
(1685-1750)

Playing
Time
2:33:41

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Mass in B Minor BWV 232

Elisabeth Schwarzkopf soprano
 Marga Höffgen mezzo-soprano
 Nicolai Gedda tenor
 Heinz Rehfuss bass
 Choral Society of the Friends of Music, Vienna
 Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra • Philharmonia Orchestra
 Herbert von Karajan

Recorded 2nd-5th and 7th November, 1952 in Vienna
 and 23rd, 28th and 30th November, 1952
 and 16th July, 1953 in London

This legendary recording of Bach's *B minor* Mass was made, most unusually, in two places and with two orchestras. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra was booked, anonymously, to record the choruses with the Choral Society of the Friends of Music, Vienna, while the reduced forces of the Philharmonia, with the section principals for instrumental solo parts, accompanied the solos and duets in London. Critical comment on this recording when it first appeared in 1954 was virtually unanimous. *The Record Guide* (Collins, 1955) remarked "The principal qualities of Karajan's reading are lightness, absolute clarity of sound and rhythmic buoyancy, all of them qualities that many performances miss ... Karajan, and [the] engineers, allow us to hear all the vocal and instrumental parts. Choral and solo singing are delightful".

CD 1	76:15	CD 2	77:26
1-3 I Kyrie	21:25	1-5 III Credo (concluded)	20:49
4-11 II Gloria	40:32	6-9 IV Sanctus	17:36
12-16 III Credo	14:17	10-11 V Agnus Dei	11:08
	12-16	Appendix: Historical Recordings of Bach's Mass in B Minor	27:51

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