

With its enormous vocal, choral and orchestral forces, Mahler's *Eighth Symphony*, later to be dubbed 'Symphony of a Thousand', is one of the largest and longest symphonies in the active repertoire. Part One, inspired by the Whitsuntide Vesper hymn *Veni creator spiritus*, is an invocation to the Creator Spirit. Part Two, a setting of the closing scene from Goethe's *Faust*, depicts Faust's redemption through wisdom and love. "Try to imagine the whole universe beginning to ring and resound", was how Mahler himself described the impact of the closing pages of the *Symphony*.



Gustav MAHLER

(1860-1911)

Symphony No. 8

Barbara Kubiak Soprano I (Magna Peccatrix)
 Izabela Kłosińska Soprano II (Una Poenitentium)
 Marta Boberska Soprano III (Mater Gloriosa)
 Jadwiga Rappé Alto I (Mulier Samaritana)
 Ewa Marciniak Alto II (Maria Aegyptica)
 Timothy Bentsch Tenor (Doctor Marianus)
 Wojtek Drabowicz Baritone (Pater Ecstasticus)
 Piotr Nowacki Bass (Pater Profundus)

Warsaw National Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra

Polish Radio Choir in Kraków • Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University Choir

Warsaw Boys Choir • Antoni Wit

A full track and artist list can be found in the booklet

Sung texts and translations can be found at www.naxos.com/libretti/mahler8.htm

Recorded at the Warsaw Philharmonic Concert Hall from 1st to 6th June, 2005.

Producers: Andrzej Sasin and Aleksandra Nagórko • Booklet Notes: Richard Whitehouse

Cover image: *The Bride* by Gustav Klimt (1862-1918)

(akg-images / Erich Lessing)



8.550533-34

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Playing Time
1:20:51



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