

Mary, the mother of Christ, grieves over her dying son, wishing she could share his wounds and alleviate his pain, in a fifteenth-century Polish Lamentation. An ordinary mother mourns in a Polish folk-song. Her son went off to war and has not come back. She is certain he is dead but does not even have his body to lay to rest. These are the texts of the first and third movements of Górecki's Symphony No.3, *Symphony of Sorrowful Songs*. Between them, more poignant still perhaps, the second movement sets a short prayer to Mary as the Queen of Heaven which was found at Gestapo headquarters in the Polish town of Zakopane, scratched on the wall of a cell by a teenaged girl imprisoned there in 1944.

Henryk
GÓRECKI
(born 1933)

Symphony No.3, Op.36
(Symphony of Sorrowful Songs) 55:58

1	Lento – Sostenuto tranquillo ma cantabile	27:09
2	Lento e largo – Tranquillissimo	10:15
3	Lento – Cantabile semplice	18:30

Three Olden Style Pieces 10:01

4	I 3:17	5	II 2:12	6	III 4:28
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Zofia Kilanowicz, Soprano
Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra (Katowice)
Antoni Wit

Recorded at the Concert Hall of the Polish Radio in Katowice in December 1993.

Producer: Beata Jankowska • Music Notes: Keith Anderson

Cover Picture: The Virgin Mary weeping. 13th-century stained glass at Chewton Mendip, Somerset
(Bridgeman Art Library, London)



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8.550822

Playing Time
66:05

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