

Vivaldi was not the only composer to write a universally popular *Four Seasons*. Composed directly after *The Creation* (Naxos 8.557380-81), Haydn's oratorio *The Seasons* features three peasant soloists who sing of the joys, trials and tribulations of country life throughout the year, complete with a chorus of villagers. Haydn's genius transforms many genre scenes – a summer storm, hunting episodes, daybreak, the gloomy winter fog and peasant dances – into something truly spectacular, joyous and life-affirming, in keeping with his deeply held religious conviction.

Franz Josef
HAYDN
(1732–1809)

Die Jahreszeiten (The Seasons)

CD 1

1-9	Der Frühling (Spring)	66:25
10-20	Der Sommer (Summer)	28:48

CD 2

1-11	Der Herbst (Autumn)	64:29
12-23	Der Winter (Winter)	32:31

**Sibylla Rubens, Soprano
Andreas Karasiak, Tenor • Stephan MacLeod, Bass**

**GewandhausKammerchor • Leipziger Kammerorchester
Morten Schuldt-Jensen**

Recorded in the Großer Saal des Gewandhauses, Leipzig, Germany, from 7th to 10th July, 2004

Producer and Engineer: Phil Rowlands • Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

Please see the booklet for a detailed track list

Cover Picture: *The Seasons* by Walter Crane (1845-1915)

(Roy Miles Fine Paintings / Bridgeman Art Library)

8.557600-01

DDD

Playing Time
2:10:55

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Booklet notes in English
Sung texts can be accessed at:
www.naxos.com/libretti/seasons.htm
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