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 Playing Time  
2:41:07

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 Soloists • Dresden Chamber Choir • Cologne Cathedral Boys' Choir  
Cologne Chamber Orchestra • Helmut Müller-Brühl

Bach composed five Passion settings, but only those based on the gospels of St Matthew and St John have survived. The first version of his *St Matthew Passion*, scored for two choirs and two orchestras, was performed on Good Friday in either 1727 or 1729. In addition to its biblical texts, there are recitatives and arias that offer reflection on the events of the Passion, and chorales that allow the chorus to add its own, more intimate meditation. The whole work is in two parts: the first taking its narrative from the events leading up to Christ's betrayal, the second from His condemnation and crucifixion.

Deutschlandfunk

Johann Sebastian

BACH

(1685-1750)

KUNSTSTIFTUNG → NRW

## St Matthew Passion

Evangelist ..... Nico van der Meel, Tenor  
 Jesus ..... Raimund Nolte, Bass-baritone  
 Petrus/Judas/Pilatus/Pontifex ..... Locky Chung, Bass  
 Soprano ..... Claudia Couwenbergh  
 Alto ..... Marianne Beate Kielland  
 Tenor ..... Markus Schäfer  
 Bass ..... Hanno Müller-Brachmann

Dresden Chamber Choir (Chorus-master: Hans-Christoph Rademann)

Cologne Cathedral Boys' Choir (Chorus-master: Eberhard Metternich)

Cologne Chamber Orchestra • Helmut Müller-Brühl

CD 1	67:45	CD 2	49:47	CD 3	43:35
1-29 Part One	67:45	1-23 Part Two	49:47	1-16 Part Two (contd.)	43:35

A full track and cast listing can be found on pages 2 to 6 of the booklet  
 The German libretto and an English translation can be found at [www.naxos.com/libretti/stmatthew.htm](http://www.naxos.com/libretti/stmatthew.htm)

Recorded by DeutschlandRadio, Sendesaal des Funkhauses Köln, in May 2005

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Booklet Notes: Keith Anderson

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