

Penderecki's *Eighth Symphony*, which here receives its world première recording, is a setting of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century German poems entitled *Lieder der Vergänglichkeit* (Songs of Transience). Mankind's journey through life, as reflected in the decay and rebirth of the natural world, underlies its twelve movements. Scored for not dissimilar forces, the oratorio *Dies irae* is a very different proposition, commissioned to mark the unveiling of the International Monument to the Victims of Fascism at the former Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. Composed in 1958 and given its première at Kraków in September the following year, *Aus den Psalmen Davids* was one of the works that marked Penderecki's arrival on the new music scene.

Krzysztof
PENDERECKI
(b. 1933)
Symphony No. 8

WORLD PREMIERE
RECORDING

1-12	Symphony No. 8, 'Lieder der Vergänglichkeit' (2005) *	36:28
13-15	Dies irae (1967) †	25:22
16-19	Aus den Psalmen Davids (1958)	10:55

Michaela Kaune, Soprano* • Agnieszka Rehlis, Mezzo-soprano*
Wojtek Drabowicz, Baritone* • Anna Lubawska, Mezzo-soprano†
Ryszard Minkiewicz, Tenor† • Jarosław Bręk, Bass-baritone†

Warsaw National Philharmonic Choir
(Henryk Wojnarowski, choirmaster)

Warsaw National Philharmonic Orchestra • Antoni Wit

In memory of Wojtek Drabowicz, who died in a car accident on 27th March, 2007

A full track listing can be found on page 2 of the booklet

Available texts may be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/570450.htm

Recorded on 8th, 9th and 11th March, 2006 (tracks 1-12); on 30th and 31st August, 2006 (tracks 13-15); and on 27th and 29th November, 2006 (tracks 16-19) at Warsaw Philharmonic Hall, Poland

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