

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)

WORLD PREMIERE
RECORDING

Symphony No. 8

- 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 Lubańska, 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

Produced, engineered and edited by Andrzej Sasin and Aleksandra Nagórko
(CD Accord Music Edition, Warsaw, Poland) • Publisher: Schott Music International

Booklet notes: Richard Whitehouse • Cover image: *Fireball* by Sybille Yates (dreamstime.com)



DDD

8.570450

Playing Time
72:45



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Kommentar auf Deutsch
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