

Orlandus Lassus was one of the greatest and most celebrated musicians of his day, and a teacher whose influence extended into the Baroque period and beyond. Although the *St Matthew Passion* is almost always associated with J.S. Bach's towering masterpiece, earlier settings developed from plainchant into polyphony throughout the 16th century. Lassus composed four Passions of which this is the most elaborate. His sublimely interwoven polyphonic settings are here placed alongside a traditional Roman Catholic Passion chant through which the roles of Jesus and the Evangelist unfold in a seemingly timeless meditation. Certain key moments in the otherwise austere Passion story are further illuminated in this recording by the inclusion of motets and a spiritual madrigal.



Orlandus
LASSUS
(1532–1594)

St Matthew Passion

Passio Domini nostri Jesu Christi secundum Mattheum

1–28 Maundy Thursday **50:40** **29–54** Good Friday **37:35**

Musica Ficta

Torsten Nielsen, Baritone (Evangelist)

Lauritz Jakob Thomsen, Baritone (Jesus)

Ann-Christin Wesser Ingels, Soprano

Louise Odgaard, Soprano • Eva Wöllinger-Bengtsson, Alto

Josef Hamber, Tenor • Tobias Aabye Dam, Tenor

Rasmus Kure Thomsen, Bass-baritone

Bo Holten, Conductor

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet.

Recorded: 6, 9 & 10 April 2015 in Isaiah Church, Copenhagen, Denmark

Producer and engineer: Viggo Mangor • Editors: Viggo Mangor and Bo Holten

Booklet notes: Bo Holten • Cover: *Cristo in Pietà tra la Vergine e san Giovanni evangelista*, 1455, by Giovanni Bellini (c. 1430–1516) (Accademia Carrara, Bergamo, Italy)



DDD

8.573840

Playing Time
88:18



© 2017 & © 2018
Naxos Rights (Europe) Ltd.
Booklet notes in English
Made in Germany
www.naxos.com