

proprius

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PRCD 9965

Frank Martin * Messe für Doppelchor 27'45

[1] KYRIE 5'45 [2] GLORIA 6'02 [3] Credo 6'06 [4] SANCTUS 4'25 [5] AGNUS DEI 4'53

Ildebrando Pizzetti * Messa di Requiem 24'00

[6] REQUIEM 5'00 [7] DIES IRÆ 10'02 [8] SANCTUS 2'57

[9] AGNUS DEI 1'55 [10] LIBERA ME 3'41

Frank Martin's *Mass* and Ildebrando Pizzetti's *Requiem* were both written in 1922, at a time of both social and cultural revolution. Yet neither is "extremist". Rather, they lie in the middle of a broad spectrum, in which we find composers writing a great deal of fine vocal church music. Yet this *Mass*, which we today experience as one of our age's finest liturgical works, was not even performed until 1962. The *Requiem* brilliantly exemplifies the vitality of the Italian vocal tradition. Intensely involved with its text, melodically it is grounded in Gregorian chant, and yet the whole has a shimmering late-romantic, impressionistic tonal patina.

