

Born near Tallinn in Estonia in 1935, Arvo Pärt emigrated in 1980 and settled in Berlin. Soon after emigrating, Pärt completed the *St John Passion* which he based on his new-found *tintinnabuli* principle that “the melody and the accompaniment is one”. Settings of the Passion are part of a very early tradition in the Church, and in Pärt’s setting it is the text itself which determines the musical structure and even the duration of the silences between the words. Using the most concentrated of means, Pärt communicates the depth and power of the ancient Passion story in a new and compelling way.

Arvo
PÄRT
(b. 1935)

Passio Domini Nostri Jesu Christi secundum Joannem

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|---|---|-------|
| ① | Jesus is betrayed and arrested in Gethsemane (exordium; John 18:1-12)
“Passio Domini Nostri Jesu Christi secundum Joannem..... ..et ligaverunt eum:” | 9:38 |
| ② | Jesus is interrogated by the high priest and denied by Peter (John 18:13-27)
“Et adduxerunt eum ad Annam primum... ..et statim gallus cantavit.” | 11:28 |
| ③ | Jesus is judged by Pilate and reviled by the people (John 18:28-19:15)
“Adducunt ergo Jesum a Caipha in praetorium... ..Non habemus Regem, nisi Caesarem.” | 26:18 |
| ④ | Jesus is crucified at Golgotha (John 19:16-30; conclusio)
“Tunc ergo tradidit eis illum ut crucifigeretur...
...Qui passus es pro nobis, miserere nobis. Amen.” | 14:27 |

**Robert Macdonald, bass (Jesus) • Mark Anderson, tenor (Pilate)
Tonus Peregrinus • Antony Pitts**

Recorded in the Abbey Church of St Peter & St Paul, Dorchester-on-Thames, UK
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(Private Collection)

NAXOS

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8.555860

Playing Time
61:50



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Sung Text in Latin with English Translation
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