Richard DANIELPOUR (b. 1956)

The Passion of Yeshua (2017)
A Dramatic Oratorio in Fourteen Scenes
Libretto adapted and assembled from sacred texts by R. Danielpour

CD 1: Part One 45:14
CD 2: Part Two 57:59

Mirjam Magdala .......... Hila Plitmamn, Soprano
Narrator (Talmud) ....... Matthew Worth, Baritone
Yeshua .................... Kenneth Overton, Baritone
Mirjam ..................... J’Nai Bridges, Mezzo-soprano
Kef portray Pilate .......... Timothy Fallon, Tenor
Kayafa ....................... James K. Bass, Baritone

UCLA Chamber Singers
Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
and Orchestra
JoAnn Falletta

Commissioned by the Oregon Bach Festival, the SDG Foundation, and the Buffalo Philharmonic, with the generous support of Don and Mary Thompson, Alan and Nancy Manocherian, and Jon Wiswasser. World Premiere, 8 July 2018, Oregon Bach Festival, JoAnn Falletta, conductor. Special thanks to Anthony Constantino, Derek Cooper, Efrat Sar-Shalom, Elaine Pagels, Neal Stulberg, Janelle McCoy, and Michael Anderson.

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet. The Hebrew and English texts are included in the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/559885.htm

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Cover design: Jefferson Rodriguez

Richard Danielpour’s dramatic oratorio The Passion of Yeshua – a work which has evolved over the last 25 years – is an intensely personal telling of the final hours of Christ on Earth. It incorporates texts from the Hebrew Scriptures and the Christian Gospels inspiring extraordinarily beautiful music that stresses the need for human compassion and forgiveness. Danielpour returns to the scale and majesty of Bach in this oratorio, creating choruses that are intense and powerful, and giving both Mary the mother of Jesus and Mary Magdalene a central place in a work of glowing spirituality. Conductor JoAnn Falletta considers The Passion of Yeshua to be “a classic for all time.”

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING