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8.572694

Playing Time
69:54

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Booklet notes in English
Made in Germany

Brahms's first connection with choral music came in 1857, and his first appointment in Vienna, in 1863, was to conduct the Singakademie. He premièred *A German Requiem* in the city and wrote widely for choral forces, taking a variety of poetic source material. *Begräbnisgesang* (Funeral Hymn) evinces a great feeling of solemnity, whilst *Schicksalslied* (Song of Destiny) is an urgent, volatile work. *Nänie* was written as a lament for the death of the painter Anselm Feuerbach, and the *Alto Rhapsody* has remained one of the greatest works for contralto in the repertoire.

Johannes
BRAHMS
(1833-97)

Music for Chorus and Orchestra

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|---|---------------------------|-------|
| 1 | Ave Maria, Op. 12 | 4:49 |
| 2 | Begräbnisgesang, Op. 13 | 8:51 |
| 3 | Alto Rhapsody, Op. 53* | 14:51 |
| 4 | Schicksalslied, Op. 54 | 17:56 |
| 5 | Nänie, Op. 82 | 13:43 |
| 6 | Gesang der Parzen, Op. 89 | 9:44 |

Ewa Wolak, Contralto*
Warsaw Philharmonic Choir
(Choirmaster: Henryk Wojnarowski)
Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra • Antoni Wit

The Latin and German sung texts and English translations can be found inside the booklet, and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/572694.htm

Recorded at Warsaw Philharmonic Hall, Warsaw, Poland, on 9th January, 2010 (track 3), 11th January, 2010 (track 6), 6th February, 2010 (track 5), 17th February, 2010 (track 4), in April 2010 (track 2), and 23rd April, 2010 (track 1) • Produced, engineered and edited by Andrzej Sasin and Aleksandra Nagórko (CD Accord) • Booklet notes: Keith Anderson

Cover painting: *Medea* by Anselm Feuerbach (1829-80)
(Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, Austria / The Bridgeman Art Library)