

CANTUS MISSAE

Masterpieces of German choral music | Nigel Short

PERFORMERS

Nigel Short *conductor*
17 singers a cappella

DURATION

1:20

This program offers an immersion into German Romantic choral music, where Lutheran spirituality blends with a new expressiveness inherited from J.S. Bach.

At the center, Josef Rheinberger's *Cantus Missae*, a pinnacle of 19th-century a cappella Mass composition, unfolds a mastery of counterpoint and harmonic richness that combines liturgical fervor with Romantic lyricism. Surrounding this central work, Reger, Brahms, and Mendelssohn revisit the motet tradition, imbuing it with unprecedented harmonic density and dramatic tension. The motets of J.S. Bach, serving as structural and spiritual models, frame the program, affirming the continuity of a centuries-old polyphonic heritage. Finally, Rudolf Mauersberger's lament *Wie liegt die Stadt so wüst* provides a tragic extension, bearing witness to the persistence of the sacred in the heart of the 20th century. This is a journey where sonic theology, contrapuntal architecture, and emotional depth meet.

a cappella
Guess conductor
Romantic
J.S. Bach

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Diffusion en 2027

PROGRAM

Max Reger (1873 - 1916) *Der Mensch lebt und bestehet*, op.138 n°1

Félix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847) *Mein Gott, warum hast du mich verlassen?*, op.78 n°3

Joseph Rheinberger (1839 - 1901) *Messe en mi bémol majeur « Cantus Missae »*, op.109

Jean-Sébastien Bach (1685 - 1750) *Komm, Jesu, komm*, BWV 229

Max Reger (1873 - 1916) *Nachtlied*, op.138, n°3

Johannes Brahms (1833 - 1897) *Warum ist das Licht Gegeben?*, op.74 n°1

Rudolf Mauersberger (1889 - 1971) *Wie liegt die Stadt so wüst?*

Félix Mendelssohn *Denn er hat seinen Engeln befohlen über dir*, MWV B. 53

Johannes Brahms *Drei motetten*, op.110

Jean-Sébastien Bach *Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied*, BWV 225