Bach's B Minor Mass: an incarnation in Prague in the 1860s and its Consequences


Published in:
Exploring Bach's B-minor Mass

Document Version:
Early version, also known as pre-print

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Download date: 01. Nov. 2023
Exploring Bach's B-minor Mass

This B-minor Mass has always represented a fascinating challenge to vocal scholarship. Compared to one of the works of Johann Sebastian Bach's lifetime, it is considered by many to be his composer's greatest and most complex work. The thirteen movements assembled in this volume originate from the International Symposium on Understanding Bach's B-minor Mass (Darmstadt, 1989). The papers, written by leading Bach scholars, capture the latest topics in the field, interpreted and updated throughout the course of a careful study of the Mass. Each contribution includes a detailed discussion of the Mass, relating to the evocative, rhetorical, and instrumental aspects of Bach's compositional style. The papers are arranged thematically, relating to the Mass's sonatas, canonic structures, structure and texture, and the performance of the works in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In the light of current new developments in the study of the piece, this collection demonstrates the tremendous range of knowledge that has become known.
Exploring Bach’s B-minor Mass

Edited by Yo Tomita, Robin A. Leaver
and Jan Smaczny
Expounding Bach's B-minor Mass / edited by Yo Tomita, Robin A. Leaver, and Jan Smaczny.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-107-00790-1
ML410.B13E97 2013
782.37/32-de23

201303111

In Memory of Anne Leahy

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