

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY
in association with the
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

THE ST. JOHN PASSION

(J. S. BACH)

E.U.M.S. CHOIR
REID CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Leader : DR. JOHN FAIRBAIRN
Conductor : SIDNEY NEWMAN

Evangelist : ANDREW DOWNIE *Christus* : JAMES ROSS
Pilate : ROBERT SHAND

The Arias will be sung by
MARGARET FRASER DUNCAN ROBERTSON
CONSTANCE MULLAY FREDERICK WESTCOTT

MUSIC HALL, EDINBURGH
THURSDAY, 3RD MARCH, 1955
AT 7.30 P.M.

PROGRAMME SIXPENCE

PART I

Chorus : " Lord and Master, in all lands the gathering nations hail
Thee Lord. Show us in this Thy Passion Thou art the true
eternal Son, Whom still we know, when in Thy manhood thus
brought low, as Master and as Lord."

IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

Jesus and His disciples enter the Garden. Judas comes with a
band of men. Jesus asks that they shall let His disciples go their way.

Chorale : " O mighty love, O love beyond all measure."

Peter cuts off Malchus' ear, and is reproved by Jesus—" Shall
I not drink the cup which My Father hath given Me ? "

Chorale : " Thy will, O God, be always done."
Jesus is bound and led away to Annas.

Aria (Alto) : " From the bondage of transgression to give me
freedom, is my Holy Saviour bound."

Peter and another disciple follow Jesus.

Aria (Soprano) : " I follow Thee also, my Saviour, with gladness,
and will not forsake Thee, my Life and my Light."

IN THE HIGH PRIEST'S PALACE

Peter denies Christ to the doorkeeper. Jesus replies to the High
Priest, and is struck by an officer.

Chorale : " O Lord, who dares to smite Thee ? "

Peter, challenged again, twice more denies his discipleship,
and the cock crows.

Aria (Tenor) : " Ah ! my soul, what end awaiteth thee ? Who then
will stand beside me ? "

Chorale : " Peter, faithless, thrice denies that his Lord he knoweth."

PART II

Chorale : " He, Whose life was as the light,
Grace and truth unshaken,
In the darkness of the night
Like a thief was taken."

IN THE JUDGMENT HALL BEFORE PILATE

Pilate questions the multitude outside the judgment hall. He
asks Jesus : " Art thou the King of the Jews ? " Jesus replies :
" My kingdom is not of this world."

Chorale : " O mighty King, eternal is Thy glory."

THE SCOURGING OF JESUS

Pilate again goes out to the Jews and asks : " Shall I release the
King of the Jews ? " They shout for Barrabas. Pilate scourges Jesus.

Arioso (Bass) : " Consider, O my soul . . . thy chiefest good is
Jesu's sorrow."

Aria (Tenor) : " Behold Him, see ! His back all torn and bleeding."

THE CROWN OF THORNS

" We salute thee, King of the Jews." Jesus is led forth wearing the
crown of thorns and the purple robe. The Jews cry : " Crucify him.
By our law he ought to die because he made himself the Son of God."
Pilate questions Jesus again, and seeks to release him.

Chorale : " O Christ, Thy fetters mean release for souls that lie in
durance."

The Jews cry out : " If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's
friend."

Pilate sits in the judgment seat outside, and says to the Jews :
" Behold your King." But they cry : " Away with him ! Crucify
him ! We have no king but Caesar." Pilate then delivers Jesus to be
crucified.

Aria (Bass—with Chorus) :

" Haste poor souls ensnared in treason,
Get you from your noisome prison,
Haste "—" O where ? " " to Golgatha."

THE CRUCIFIXION

Jesus is crucified with two others. Pilate writes the superscription :
" Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." The chief priests protest :
" Write not ' the King of the Jews ' but that ' he said I am the King
of the Jews.' "

Chorale : " Thy Name is shining on me, Lord Jesu, day and night."
The soldiers divide the garments, but cast lots for the coat
without seam.

Jesus speaks to His mother, and to the beloved disciple.

Chorale : " See Him now, the Righteous One,
His last hour abiding
For His Mother, faithful Son,
Faithful care providing."

Jesus drinks of the vinegar, and He says : " It is fulfilled."

Aria (Alto) : echoing the words of Jesus . . .

" It is fulfilled, this night of woe
Makes me upon my last hour ponder.
See, Judah's hero triumphs now
And ends the fight."

Jesus bows His head and departs.

Aria and Chorale (Bass and Chorus)

“ Beloved Saviour, wilt Thou answer . . .
Am I from death delivered.”
“ Jesus, Thou who knewest death
Art alive for ever.”

THE EARTHQUAKE

Arioso (Tenor) : “ My heart behold how all the world
At Jesu’s sufferings likewise suffers . . .
And as for thee, what wilt thou do ? ”

Aria (Soprano) : “ Dissolve, O my heart, in weeping the Highest to
honour.”

The soldiers break the legs of the two who were crucified with
Jesus, and pierce His side. Thus the scriptures are fulfilled.

Chorale : “ Help us, O Thou Son of God.”

THE EMBALMING AND ENTOMBMENT

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus take away the Body, and
embalm it, and lay it in a new sepulchre.

Chorus : “ Lie still, lie still, O sacred limbs, lie sleeping.
Henceforth no more will I bewail Thee.
Lie still, lie still, and lead Thou me to peace.”

Chorale : “ LORD JESUS THY DEAR ANGEL SEND.”

(All are invited to join in the singing of this Chorale)

“ Lord Jesus, Thy dear angel send,
Whene’er my mortal life shall end,
And bear my soul to heaven.

Within its narrow chamber keep
My body safe in painless sleep
Till Thy last call be given.

And when from death Thou wakest me,
In bliss untold mine eyes shall see,
O Son of God Thy glorious face,
My Saviour and my Fount of Grace,
Lord Jesus Christ, O hear Thou me, O hear Thou me.
Thee will I praise eternally.