

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS
SEASON 1950-51

**EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY
MUSICAL SOCIETY CHOIR**

Conductor—**SIDNEY NEWMAN**

THE ST JOHN PASSION

J. S. BACH

SATURDAY, 3rd March 1951, at 2.30 p.m.

POLLOCK HALL - - - EDINBURGH

Evangelist : **ANDREW DOWNIE**

Christus : **JAMES ROSS**

Pilate : **JULIAN SMITH**

THE ARIAS WILL BE SUNG BY

ETTA GALBRAITH

JAMES MILLAR

RUTH MORRISON

IAN PITT WATSON

Leader of Orchestra—**Dr JOHN FAIRBAIRN**

Continno—**Dr DOUGLAS DICKSON**

PART I.

Chorus: "Lord, our Redeemer, Thou Whose name in all the world is glorious, show us in this Thy Passion that Thou, the true and only Son for evermore, e'en from humiliation sore, dost rise victorious."

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 wondrous Love, whose depths no heart has sounded."
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 Lord our God, be 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, ah! whither wilt thou fly? Where shall I seek for comfort?"

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

PART 2.

Chorale: "See the Lord of Life and Light,
Saviour meek and lowly,
Taken like a thief at night
Bound by hands unholy."

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 highest good is Jesus' sorrow."

Aria (Tenor): "Lord Jesus, ah! Thy bitter pain and sorrow to joy restores us, and sets the sinner free."

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: "Thy bonds, O Son of God most high
Have perfect freedom brought us."

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

Pilate sits in the judgment seat outside, and says to the Jews: "Behold your King." 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, ye deeply wounded spirits,
Come and bring your heavy burdens."
"O where? O where?"
"—to Golgotha."

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: "Within our inmost being Thy Name and Cross alone."

The soldiers divide the garments, but cast lots for the coat without seam.
Jesus speaks to His mother, and to the beloved disciple.

Chorale: "While His parting spirit sinks . . .
Jesus on His mother thinks."

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 Jesus' 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, Christ, Almighty Son.”

The EMBALMING AND ENTOMBMENT.

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

Chorus : “ Rest here in peace, Redeemer blest and holy,
No more will I bewail Thee.
Rest here in peace, 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.