

Montgomery Philharmonic 2014 - 2015 Concert Season – SINGULARITY

Ludwig van Beethoven – He Changed the World – November, 23 2014

About Ludwig van Beethoven –

Ludwig van Beethoven was a German composer and pianist. A crucial figure in the transition between the Classical and Romantic eras in Western art music, Beethoven remains one of the most famous and influential of all composers. He began his professional study as a pianist in 1779 in Bonn with Christian Gottlob Neefe, a court-appointed organist who also taught him composition. Beethoven's first job was working as Neefe's assistant, and during this time, his first works were published—a set of piano variations and three sonatas. Soon afterward, Beethoven moved to Vienna, intending to study with Haydn. It is not clear how long he actually studied with Neefe, but he did study counterpoint with Haydn. At the same time, Beethoven established himself as a piano virtuoso and violinist.

In the early 1800's, Beethoven began to write symphonies, chamber music, and piano sonatas, and he also accepted piano students. The first signs of tinnitus began to appear at this time, and by 1811 he was having great difficulty playing his own work, the *Emperor Concerto*; by 1814 he was completely deaf. Beethoven's deafness has been attributed to lead poisoning. He kept his wine in a ceramic container that had a lead-based glaze, and a recent analysis of a few strands of his hair found that it had abnormally high levels of lead. Beethoven's last period of composition began in 1815. At this point, he became an innovator in various forms of composition and his music had a striking intellectual depth and intensity of expression.

- **Born:** December 16, 1770, in Bonn, Germany
- **Died:** March 26, 1827, in Vienna, Austria
- **Full Name:** Ludwig van Beethoven
- **Compositions:** 9 symphonies, 7 concerti, 1 opera, 1 ballet, numerous works for piano including 32
- piano sonatas, 16 string quartets, and dozens of other chamber music works
- **Parents:** Maria Magdalena Keverich, Johann van Beethoven
- **Siblings:** Kaspar Anton Karl van Beethoven, Nikolaus Johann van Beethoven, Ludwig Maria van Beethoven

Overture, The Creatures of Prometheus, opus 43

Mass in C major, Opus 86 (1807)

Choral Fantasy in C minor, Opus 80 (1808)

Mass in C Major, Opus 86 (1807)

Beethoven's *Mass in C Major* is a traditional mass using the six traditional parts of the mass—*Kyrie*, *Gloria*, *Credo*, *Sanctus*, *Benedictus*, and *Agnus Dei*. Beethoven composed the work in 1807 and it was first performed at the castle of Eisenstadt, in Austria, on September 13, 1807. He was commissioned to write the mass by Prince Nicholas Esterhazy in honor of his wife's name day. Celebrating a name day is a European and Latin American tradition in which a person's name is celebrated on the day of the year where his or her given name is associated with a saint on the Christian calendar of saints.

Prince Esterhazy was not pleased with Beethoven's work. In fact he called it “unbearably ridiculous and detestable.” It is important to note that, up to this point, Prince Esterhazy had employed Franz Joseph Haydn to serve as court composer, so now, because Haydn was quite old, Beethoven was given this task. Esterhazy was used to Haydn's predictable forms, harmony, and melodies. Beethoven furnished none of these and really sent the Prince into a rage. This was Beethoven's first mass and he was hesitant to write the piece. Esterhazy felt that the work was too humble and much more spiritual than the masses that Haydn had written. Although Beethoven followed what Haydn had traditionally laid out for a mass, Beethoven chose to make his interpretation very personal, with contrasting colors, textures, dynamics, glorious outbursts of singing, key changes, and unusual harmonies; no solo aria was used. This was revolutionary at the time, yet we, whose ears are used to hearing much more, find the work to have beautiful orchestration, loveliness, and depth that is stunning, as well as color and texture that are compelling.

Beethoven was so affected by the negative comments by Prince Esterhazy and the public that he did not write another mass for 15 years. He shifted his focus to symphonies and chamber music and this became the most prolific period of time during his life.

TEXT

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te. Benedicimus te. Adoramus te. Glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.

Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Glory to God in the highest.

And on earth peace to people of good will. We praise You. We bless You. We worship You. We glorify You. Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty, Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.

You who take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. You who take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. You who sit at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus. Tu solus Dominus. Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe. Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

For You alone are holy. You alone are Lord. You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of the Father. Amen.

CREDO

Credo in unum Deum, Patrem omnipotentem, factorem coeli et terrae, visibilium omnium et invisibilium. Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Filium Dei unigenitum. Et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula. Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum verum de Deo vero. Genitum, not factum, consubstantialem Patri: per quem omnia facta sunt. Qui propter nos homines, et propter nostram salutem descendit de caelis. Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto ex Maria Virgine: et homo factus est. Crucifixus etiam pro nobis; sub Pontio Pilato passus, et sepultus est.

Et resurrexit

Et resurrexit tertia die, secundum Scripturas. Et ascendit in caelum: sedet ad dexteram Patris. Et iterum venturus est cum gloria judicare vivos et mortuos, cujus regni non erit finis. Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum et vivificantem. Qui cum Patre, et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur: qui locutus est per Prophetas. Et unam, sanctam, catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam. Confiteor unum baptisma in remissionem peccatorum. Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum. Et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.

I believe in one God, The Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son of God. Born of the Father before all ages. God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God. Begotten, not made, of one substance with the Father. By whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven.

And became incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary: and was made man. He was also crucified for us, suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried.

And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son. Who together with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, and who spoke through the prophets. And one holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I await the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SANCTUS

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis!

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest!

BENEDICTUS

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Osanna

Osanna in excelsis.

Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

AGNUS DEI

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Dona nobis.

Dona nobis pacem!

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Grant us peace!

Instrumentation – 2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets in C, 2 Bassoons, 2 horns in C/D, 2 trumpets in C/D, timpani, violin 1, violin 2, viola, cello, bass

Artifact –

[First edition of the full score](#)



1. Beethoven: *Missa Solemnis* [Gemini Series] - Carlo Maria Giulini

2. Beethoven: *Mass In C* - Sir Colin Davis, London Symphony Orchestra & London Symphony Chorus

3. Beethoven: *Mass in C & Missa Solemnis* - Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Sir Georg Solti & Various Artists

4. Beethoven: *Mass In C Major, Op. 86* - Ingeborg Danz, Michel Brodard, Keith Lewis, Katherine van Kampen, Stuttgart Gachinger Kantorei, Helmuth Rilling & Stuttgart Bach Collegium



1. *Mass in C and Christ on the Mount of Olives in Full Score* (Dover Music Scores)

2. Alfred Mass: *In C Major, Opus 86, for Soli, Chorus and Orchestra*, Kalmus Classic Edition (Kalmus Edition)

3. *MASS IN C MAJOR OP86 (MISSA) STUDY SCORE* (Edition Eulenburg)

4. *Beethoven's Letters (1790-1826): From the Collection of Dr Ludwig Nohl* (Cambridge Library Collection - Music) (Volume 2)

5. *Beethoven: His Spiritual Development*

6. *Mass in C*

YouTube Video Links –

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8g_OIM169mo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsW5bYSRZRO>