

3 PSALMS

Uppsala Akademiska Kammarkör

Stefan Parkman

Felix Mendelssohn

Drei Psalmen op. 78

Jaakko Mäntyjärvi

Stuttgarter Psalmen

- 1 Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy: Der 2. Psalm. *Warum toben die Heiden?* * 7.02
- 2 Jaakko Mäntyjärvi: *Warum toben die Heiden?* * 9.05
- 3 Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy: Der 22. Psalm. *Mein Gott, warum hast du mich verlassen?* 8.43
SOLOISTS: Stefan Parkman, *tenor* Kristina Hognesius Lockner, *soprano*
- 4 Jaakko Mäntyjärvi: *Mein Gott, warum hast du mich verlassen?* * 12.59
- 5 Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy: Der 43. Psalm. *Richte mich, Gott* 6.44
- 6 Jaakko Mäntyjärvi: *Richte mich, Gott* * 7.12

TOTAL TIME 51.49

* PREMIERE RECORDING

FELIX MENDELSSOHN (1809–1847) composed sacred music throughout his career, ranging from the *Magnificat* he composed at age 13 to the later, great, oratorios *St. Paul* and *Elijah*. While ties to Bach and Händel are evident, Mendelssohn copied no one; his personal expression is always present, elegant and supple, more light than dark.

The three psalms in his opus 78 were created during the years 1841 to 1844, while Mendelssohn held the post of Royal Prussian Kapellmeister. One of his many assignments was to compose new pieces for the Berlin Cathedral, which Mendelssohn executed with great earnestness, but they were not published until after his death.

Two of the psalms he selected, 2 and 43, are in praise of the Lord, effectively expressed in the final bars of psalm 43. Psalm 22, on the other hand is all about human vulnerability and the introduction is strikingly spare.

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Felix Mendelssohn, the International Bach Academy in Stuttgart had the Finnish composer Jaakko Mäntyjärvi create new music for the psalms used in opus 78. Only the texts, not the music of Mendelssohn, were to be the basis of this piece. In September 2009, Mäntyjärvi's tribute premiered in Stuttgart, performed by Stefan Parkman and the Academy Chamber Choir of Uppsala at a concert in Mendelssohn's honour.

JAAKKO MÄNTYJÄRVI, born 1963 in Turku, is internationally acclaimed as a skilled and innovative composer of choral music. He is known for works such as *Four Shakespeare Songs*, the popular *Pseudo-Yoik* and the requiem *Canticum calamitatis maritimae*, dedicated to those lost in the Estonia ferry disaster. He describes himself as an eclectic traditionalist, and this description fits this piece as well. The music includes elements of twelve-tone (at the beginning of psalm 2) and Orientalism (psalm 22), which are then interwoven with expressive choral parts of a more traditional nature.

Anders Edling



DER 2. PSALM, "WARUM TOBEN DIE HEIDEN"

Warum toben die Heiden, und die Leute reden so vergeblich?
Die Könige im Lande lehnen sich auf, und die Herren ratschlagen miteinander wider den Herrn und seinen Gesalbten:
Lasset uns zerreißen ihre Bande und von uns werfen ihre Seile!
Aber der im Himmel wohnt, lachet ihrer, und der Herr spottet ihrer.
Er wird einst mit ihnen reden in seinem Zorn, und mit seinem Grimm wird er sie schrecken.
Aber ich habe meinen König eingesetzt auf meinem heiligen Berg Zion.
Ich will von einer solchen Weise predigen, daß der Herr zu mir gesagt hat: Du bist mein Sohn, heute hab' ich dich gezeuget.
Heische von mir, so will ich dir die Heiden zum Erbe geben und der Welt Ende zum Eigentum.
Du sollst sie mit eisernem Zepter zerschlagen; wie Töpfe sollst du sie zerbrechen.
So lasset euch nun weisen, ihr Könige, und lasset euch züchtigen, ihr Richter auf Erden!
Dienet dem Herrn mit Furcht und freuet euch mit Zittern!
Küsst den Sohn, daß er nicht zürne und ihr umkommet auf dem Wege; denn sein Zorn wird bald anbrennen.
Aber wohl allen, die auf ihn trauen!
(Ehre sei dem Vater und dem Sohne und dem Heiligen Geiste, wie es war von Anfang, jetzt und immerdar und von Ewigkeit zu Ewigkeit. Amen.)

PSALM 2

Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?
The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying,
Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.
He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.
Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.
Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.
I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.
Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.
Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.
Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.
Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.
Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.
(Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.)

DER 43. PSALM "RICHE MICH, GOTT"

Richte mich, Gott, und führe meine Sache wider das unheilige Volk und errette mich von den falschen und bösen Leuten.
Denn du bist der Gott meiner Stärke; warum verstößest du mich? Warum lässest du mich so traurig gehen, wenn mich mein Feind dränget?
Sende dein Licht und deine Wahrheit, daß sie mich leiten zu deinem heiligen Berge und zu deiner Wohnung,
daß ich hineingehe zum Altar Gottes, zu dem Gott, der meine Freude und Wonne ist, und dir, Gott; auf der Harfe danke, mein Gott!
Was betrübtest du dich, meine Seele, und bist so unruhig in mir? Harre auf Gott; denn ich werde ihm noch danken, daß er meines Angesichts Hilfe und mein Gott ist.
(Ehre sei dem Vater und dem Sohne und dem Heiligen Geiste, wie es war von Anfang, jetzt und immerdar und von Ewigkeit zu Ewigkeit. Amen.)

PSALM 43

Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.
For thou art the God of my strength: why dost thou cast me off? why go I mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?
O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.
Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy: yea, upon the harp will I praise thee, O God my God.
Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.
(Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.)

DER 22. PSALM "MEIN GOTT, WARUM HAST DU MICH VERLASSEN"

Mein Gott, mein Gott, warum hast du mich verlassen?
(*Eli, Eli, lama asabthani?*) Ich heule, aber meine Hilfe ist ferne.

Mein Gott, des Tages rufe ich, so antwortest du nicht;
und des Nachts schweige ich auch nicht.

Aber du bist heilig, der du wohnest unter dem Lobe
Israels.

Unsere Väter hofften auf dich, und da sie hofften, halfest
du ihnen aus.

Zu dir schrien sie und wurden errettet; sie hofften auf
dich und wurden nicht zu schanden.

Ich aber bin ein Wurm und kein Mensch, ein Spott der
Leute und Verachtung des Volks.

Alle, die mich sehen, spotten meiner, sperren das Maul
auf und schütteln den Kopf:

Er klage es dem Herrn, der helfe ihm aus und errette
ihn, hat er Lust zu ihm!

Ich bin ausgeschüttet wie Wasser; alle meine Gebeine
haben sich zertrennet; mein Herz ist in meinem Leibe
wie zerschmolzenes Wachs.

Meine Kräfte sind vertrocknet wie eine Scherbe, und
meine Zunge klebet am Gaumen; und du legst mich in
des Todes Staub.

Denn Hunde haben mich umgeben, und der Bösen
Rotte hat sich um mich gemacht; sie haben meine
Hände und Füße durchgraben.

(Ich möchte alle meine Beine Zählen. Sie aber schauen
und sehen ihre Lust an mir.)

Sie teilen meine Kleider unter sich und werfen das Los
um mein Gewand.

Aber du, Herr, sei nicht ferne; meine Stärke, eile, mir
zu helfen!

Errette meine Seele von Schwert, meine Einsame von
den Hunden!

Hilf mir aus dem Rachen des Löwen und errette mich
von den Einhörnern.

Ich will deinen Namen predigen meinen Brüdern, ich
will dich in der Gemeinde rühmen.

Rühmet den Herrn, die ihn fürchten; es ehre ihn aller
Same Jakobs, und vor ihm scheue sich aller Same Israels!
Denn er hat nicht verachtet noch verschmäht das Elend
des Armen und sein Antlitz nicht vor ihm verborgen,
und da er zu ihm schrie hörte er es.

Dich will ich preisen in der großen Gemeinde; ich will
meine Gelübde bezahlen vor denen, die ihn fürchten.
Die Elenden sollen essen, daß sie satt werden, und die
nach dem Herrn fragen, werden ihn preisen; euer Herz
soll ewiglich leben.

Es werde gedacht aller Welt Ende, daß sie sich zum
Herrn bekehren, und vor ihm anbeten alle Geschlechter
der Heiden.

Denn der Herr hat ein Reich, und er herrscht unter den
Heiden.

(Ehre sei dem Vater und dem Sohne und dem Heiligen
Geiste, wie es war von Anfang, jetzt und immerdar und
von Ewigkeit zu Ewigkeit. Amen.)

PSALM 22

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art
thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my
roaring?

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not;
and in the night season, and am not silent.

But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of
Israel.

Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst
deliver them.

They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in
thee, and were not confounded.

But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and
despised of the people.

All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out
the lip, they shake the head, saying,

He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him: let him
deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of
joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of
my bowels.

My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue
cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the
dust of death.

For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked
have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.

(I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me.)

They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon
my vesture.

But be not thou far from me, O Lord: O my strength,
haste thee to help me.

Deliver my soul from the sword; my darling from the
power of the dog.

Save me from the lion's mouth: for thou hast heard me
from the horns of the unicorns.

I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of
the congregation will I praise thee.

Ye that fear the Lord, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob,
glorify him; and fear him, all ye the seed of Israel.

For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of
the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but
when he cried unto him, he heard.

My praise shall be of thee in the great congregation: I
will pay my vows before them that fear him.

The meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the
Lord that seek him: your heart shall live for ever.

All the ends of the world shall remember and turn
unto the Lord: and all the kindreds of the nations shall
worship before thee.

For the kingdom is the Lord's: and he is the governor
among the nations.

(Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy
Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall
be, world without end. Amen.)

UPPSALA AKADEMISKA KAMMARKÖR, *the Academy Chamber Choir of Uppsala*, was founded in 1957 in Uppsala, Sweden, and its first artistic director was the world famous conductor Eric Ericson. Originally the choir was a student choir connected to the student society Norrlands nation, but since 1964 it is independent and the character of a student choir is now long gone. Through the years the choir has continued to have close associations with Uppsala University and many of its members are Faculty, students or alumni of the university.

Since 1983 Professor Stefan Parkman, Director Cantorum at Uppsala University, has been conductor of the Academy Chamber Choir. Since his appointment as professor in choral conducting in 2000, the choir has had the function of resident choir at international Master Classes and has been an integral part of the University music scene.

The repertoire spans the traditional Scandinavian choir music, through early music to contemporary a cappella music, the latter becoming somewhat of a trade mark for the choir. During recent years the Academy Chamber Choir has given premiere performances of a number of pieces by composers such as Sven-David Sandström, Jaakko Mäntyjärvi and Jan Sandström. The choir frequently collaborates with distinguished orchestras such as Drottningholms Barockensemble and has also made a number of recordings through the years.

The Academy Chamber Choir often performs throughout Sweden and regularly tours all over the world. In recent years it has performed in the United States and Germany on several occasions.



www.uak.se

STEFAN PARKMAN (born 1952) holds the Eric Ericson professorship in Choral Conducting at Uppsala University, where he was appointed Director cantorum in January 2010.

He was conductor of the Boys' Choir of Uppsala Cathedral 1974-1989 and director of the Royal Philharmonic Chorus in Stockholm 1985-1993.

In 1989, Stefan Parkman was appointed Chief Conductor of the Danish National Radio Choir. With this ensemble he created an extensive body of recordings for Chandos.

2002-2005 Stefan Parkman was Chief Conductor of the Swedish Radio Choir and he continues to be featured as a guest conductor.

As of 1983, he is the Artistic Director of the Academy Chamber Choir of Uppsala.

As a free-lance maestro, Parkman regularly conducts a great number of professional choirs in Europe and USA including Rundfunkchor Berlin, RIAS Kammerchor, Berlin, Chor des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Munich, NDR Chor, Hamburg, MDR Rundfunkchor, Leipzig, BBC Singers, London, Netherlands Radio Choir, Hilversum, Nederlands Kamerkoor, Amsterdam, Chœur de Radio France, Paris and Trinity Choir, New York.

He appears with numerous symphony orchestras and ensembles in Scandinavia and elsewhere, including the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the Royal Opera in Stockholm and the Radio Symphony Orchestras of Berlin, Copenhagen and Stockholm.

Apart from his regular duties as professor and conductor, Parkman also frequently teaches at master classes, seminars and workshops in Sweden and abroad. He is also a frequently engaged vocal soloist, mainly for chamber music and oratorio works.

In 1997, he was made Knight of the Dannebrog by Queen Margarethe II of Denmark. In 1998 he became a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music. For his outstanding work as a choral conductor Stefan Parkman was honoured with the Litteris et Artibus medal by King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden.

This CD-recording has been produced in co-operation with the Uppsala University Choral Centre.

Director: Stefan Parkman.

FOR MORE INFO: www.korcentrum.uu.se

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