



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

REQUIEM

MOZART'S DEATH IN WORDS AND MUSIC



PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MANFRED HONECK
MUSIC DIRECTOR

F. MURRAY ABRAHAM, NARRATOR

JEANINE DE BIQUE, SOPRANO

CATRIONA MORISON, MEZZO-SOPRANO

BEN BLISS, TENOR

TAREQ NAZMI, BASS

MENDELSSOHN CHOIR OF PITTSBURGH
PREPARED BY **BETSY BURLEIGH**
AND **DR. RYAN KEELING**

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE CHOIR
JAMES JORDAN, CONDUCTOR



REFERENCE RECORDINGS FR-761SACD

DIGITAL RELEASE DATE: AUGUST 29, 2025

Available in high resolution, standard resolution and Dolby Atmos Apple Spatial digital

A HYBRID SACD WILL BE RELEASED LATER IN 2025

A DEEPLY PERSONAL INTERPRETATION FROM MANFRED HONECK AND THE PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, FEATURING F. MURRAY ABRAHAM AS NARRATOR.

REFERENCE RECORDINGS® proudly presents the beloved *Requiem* of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, in a very special interpretation. Academy Award® and Golden Globe®-winning film and Broadway star **F. Murray Abraham** joins **Manfred Honeck** and the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** for Honeck's dramatic conception of "Requiem: Mozart's Death in Words and Music." Over a decade ago, Honeck contemporized Mozart's epic masterpiece by incorporating text into the score. F. Murray Abraham, Manfred Honeck, and the Orchestra previously performed "Requiem: Mozart's Death in Words and Music" at Heinz Hall in 2012 and at Carnegie Hall in 2014. This album was recorded live in 2023 in beautiful and historic **Heinz Hall**, home of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, in superb audiophile sound. Maestro Honeck honors us again with his peerless music notes, in which he gives us great insight into his musical interpretation of Mozart's final, iconic work.

"We are so thrilled that the exceptional artist **F. Murray Abraham** will return to Pittsburgh to collaborate again with **Manfred Honeck** and the Pittsburgh Symphony on what promises to be an extraordinary concert weekend," said Melia Tourangeau, president and CEO of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. "Manfred Honeck's interpretation of Mozart's Requiem is a very special one that includes traditional Austrian death bells, Gregorian chant, and conveys both solace and hope."

Known for a wide range of roles on stage and screen, the highly acclaimed **F. Murray Abraham** won the Academy Award® for Best Actor for his role as Italian composer Antonio Salieri in the film *Amadeus*, which fictionalized a relationship between Salieri and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Abraham starred in the critically acclaimed series *Homeland*, for which he received two Emmy® nominations. Abraham recently starred in the HBO hit television series *The White Lotus* for which he received a Golden Globe® nomination.

Now in its 130th season, the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra** is credited with a rich history of engaging the world's finest conductors and musicians, and is deeply committed to the Pittsburgh region and citizens. Since 2008, the Orchestra has been led by Manfred Honeck, its internationally renowned Music Director. The Orchestra has always been at the forefront; championing new works and has a



REFERENCE RECORDINGS FR-76ISACD



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long and illustrious history in the areas of recordings and live radio broadcasts dating back to the 1930s. It has toured frequently both domestically and overseas since 1896. The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra continues to be critically acclaimed as one of the world's greatest orchestras. For more information about The Orchestra, visit www.pittsburghsymphony.org.

This release is the sixteenth in the highly acclaimed *Pittsburgh Live!* series of releases on the FRESH! imprint from Reference Recordings. This series has received GRAMMY® awards in 2025 for its recording of Bruckner's Symphony No. 7; Bates: *Resurrexit*, and in 2018 for Shostakovich's Symphony No.5 /Barber *Adagio for Strings*, as well as numerous GRAMMY® nominations for other titles in the series. This release and the entire *Pittsburgh Live!* series are produced, recorded and mastered by the team at **Soundmirror**, whose outstanding orchestral, solo, opera and chamber recordings have received over 140 GRAMMY® nominations and awards.

sound/mirror, Boston

RECORDING PRODUCER: Dirk Sobotka

RECORDING ENGINEER: Mark Donahue

BALANCE ENGINEER: Mark Donahue

EDITING: Dirk Sobotka

MASTERING: Mark Donahue

REQUIEM

MOZART'S DEATH IN WORDS AND MUSIC

1. Bell Strikes 0:27
2. Gregorian Chant: Requiem in aeternam 0:51
3. Reading: Letter from Mozart to his Father in Salzburg (Vienna, April 4, 1787) 2:55
4. MOZART: Maurerische Trauermusik in C minor, K. 477 4:34
5. Gregorian Chant: Domine exaudi orationem meam 1:29
6. MOZART: *Vesperae solennes de confessore, K.339, No. 5 Laudate Dominum* 3:41
7. Gregorian Chant: In quacumque die 1:14
8. Reading: "Who Knows Where the Stars Stand" by Nelly Sachs 1:20
9. Reading: "When in the Late Spring" by Nelly Sachs 1:20
- MOZART: REQUIEM in D minor, K. 626
10. I. Introitus 4:49 11. II. Kyrie 2:25
12. Reading: Book of Revelation, 6:8-17 2:11
- MOZART: REQUIEM in D minor, K. 626, III. Sequenz
13. Dies irae 1:45 14. Tuba Mirum 3:17 15. Rex tremendae 2:02
16. Recordare 4:39 17. Confutatis 2:27 18. Lacrimosa 2:48
19. Gregorian Chant: Christus factus est 1:16
20. Reading: Book of Revelation, 21:1-7 1:50
- MOZART: REQUIEM in D minor, K. 626, IV. Offertorium
21. Domine Jesu 3:09 22. Hostias 4:20
23. MOZART: REQUIEM in D minor, K. 626, Lacrimosa (fragment) 0:50
24. MOZART: *Ave verum corpus, K. 618 in D Major* 3:45
25. Bell Strikes 0:42

TOTAL TIME: 60:13



Reference Recordings was founded in 1976 in San Francisco. The label has multiple GRAMMY® awards and a catalog that includes numerous American and international orchestras, ensembles and choruses. FRESH! is part of Reference Recordings' mission to encourage unique and fine artists, and give them a strong platform for promotion and sales nationally and internationally. Reference Recordings are distributed in North America by Naxos USA, and internationally through a network of independent distributors.

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