

BACH : THE SILENT CANTATA

With BACH : THE SILENT CANTATA, Özdemir pays his own very personal tribute to Bach. He has selected arias and chorales from 12 sacred cantatas that Bach wrote during his incredibly productive Leipzig years starting in 1723, and has rearranged them for bassoon, arch-lute, organ and baroque strings, performed by the internationally known baroque ensemble Musica Sequenza.

Burak Özdemir has assembled the individual cantata movements to create a two-part narrative that comes close to a story of the Passion. To prepare for this, Özdemir spent a two-year-long period of time making an intensive study of over 200 Bach arias. During this lengthy preparation phase, he focused both on the music and the texts with the aim of giving shape to his ideal of a universal divine love.

Sensitive and with dignity, graceful and delicate, but also exuberantly happy – thus the bassoon moves without words through the sacred universe that Bach composed solely in the honor of the Lord. BACH : THE SILENT CANTATA is an entirely new spiritual listening experience; hence his choice of the somewhat paradoxical title for the project.

“It’s this contradiction that appealed to me. The term ‘cantata’ immediately makes people think of singing, and there is really no such thing as a silent cantata.” , says Burak Özdemir. None of the cantata texts appear on the pages of Özdemir’s score, but their place is taken by the emotional power of music that conveys its message, and transports our feelings and faith entirely without words.

WORLD PRESS

A special, spiritual sound experience by Musica Sequenza
- ECHO

Musik says more than thousand words
- THÜRINGER ALLGEMEINE

Virtuosity of colors
- KULTUR RADIO RBB

A pulsating tone that captivates the listener
- METROPOLKULTUR

Highly virtuoso and incredible-sounding ensemble
- MITTELDEUTSCHER RUNDFUNK