



press information

**Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897):**

Ein Deutsches Requiem

**Edith Mathis, Soprano
Wolfgang Brendel, Baritone**

**Bavarian Radio Choir and
Symphony Orchestra
Conductor: Rafael Kubelik**

The series of audite releases with Rafael Kubelik and the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra is continued here with the German Requiem of Johannes Brahms. The North German Protestant Brahms did not create a liturgical setting with his Requiem, but rather a large-scale seven-part cantata on man's shock over the confrontation with earthly finiteness and the overcoming of death through faith - Brahms himself selected the text passages from the Lutheran Bible. He develops the entire cosmos of his view of faith, with impressive compactness of content and formal consequence of the musical design: not ritualised devoutness, dogmatic teachings and fear of a punishing God, but comfort and security for the self-responsible human being are in the centre of interest. The realisation of this at once very personal and also generally human statement is a special challenge for each musical interpretation. It has seldom succeeded as plastically and emphatically as here. The work appears in a live recording from the Herkulesaal of the Munich Residenz made on 29 September 1978.

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