

MUSIC

LIVE MUSIC
30 MIN.

VERSIONS

Only music

RIGHTS

Not available worldwide.
Please contact your regional
distribution partner.

ORDER NUMBER

Diverse
16 x various lengths



Christmas Music

The Holly and the Ivy – Christmas Carols

66 4746 | 30 min.

They come from England and Germany, Austria and other parts of Europe. Some were written in the 16th or 17th century, others in the 18th or 19th. Their composers are called George Frideric Handel or Franz Xaver Mozart, but also Franz Xaver Gruber, John Jenkins or Johann Pezelius. In our Christmas Concert, we present popular Christmas songs and traditional melodies of the last 500 years.

They are interpreted by the Mainz Cathedral Choir, as well as other choirs and instrumental ensembles. The recordings took place in the most beautiful churches and monasteries in southern and western Germany. Among the locations is the world famous Mainz Cathedral, which has already celebrated its millennium, St. Martin's Church in Biberach, which has for centuries been used by both Catholic and Protestant parishes, or St. Rochus' Chapel near Bingen on the Rhine, described in great detail in a travel journal by the famous German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. This joyful and contemplative music performed in picturesque settings is sure to put you in the mood for the Christmas festivities.

Sonata – Johann Pezelius

Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates – Traditional

Air – John Jenkins

Engel Gottes künden – Franz Xaver Mozart

The Holly and the Ivy – Traditional

Awake, Sweet Nightingale – Traditional

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming – Traditional

Rejoice, Heaven and Earth – Composer Unknown

He Shall Feed His Flock (from: Messiah) – George Frideric Handel

Stille Nacht – Franz Xaver Gruber

MUSIC

LIVE MUSIC
30 MIN.



VERSION

Only music

RIGHTS
Not available worldwide.
Please contact your regional
distribution partner.

ORDER NUMBER
Diverse
16 x various lengths

Wintry Dreams and Christmas Melodies

66 4705 | 30 min.

Festive music to celebrate Christmas. On the programme: Arcangelo Corelli's "Christmas Concerto" played by the Baden-Baden Philharmonic, as well as traditional songs and other seasonal melodies. Concert venues include the Kurhaus Baden-Baden, castles, museums, churches and abbeys in southwestern Germany. The centrepiece is the famous "Christmas Concerto", a work that's easily as well known as Antonio Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" these days. It has an especially rich structure, with regard to movement progression, dynamics and melodic structure. Aggressive sections alternate with wistfully pastoral parts, painfully dissonant movements with calm and peaceful ones; very fast, almost hurried sections are abruptly interspersed with measured passages that almost appear to be grinding to a halt. An intense musical game of questions and answers serves to draw all these divergent, contrasting elements together, and despite the ornamentation and virtuoso coloratura passages, the exceptionally soulful dominant violin melody comes very close to part writing for the human voice. The closing 5th movement leads into the famous Pastorale: in a major key, instead of an austere minor key, and in a tranquil, restrained manner, this comforting pastoral music ambles by: in a rocking gait, with cantilenas in thirds and sixths and a pianissimo as subtle as the beat of angels' wings – as the piece draws to a close.

Programme includes:

Henry Purcell
Trumpet Tune

Joy to the world
Saxophone Quartet Simply Reed

In dulci jubilo
Lute Ensemble "Secret des muses"

Hark, the herald angels sing
Simply Reed Saxophone Quartet

Arcangelo Corelli (1653–1713)
Concerto grosso G minor op. VI / 8,
"fatta per la notte di natale" – Christmas Concerto
Vivace – Grave
Allegro
Adagio – Allegro – Adagio
Vivace
Allegro – Pastorale

Baden-Baden Philharmonic
Conductor and Harpsichord: Pavel Baleff
1. Violin: Yasushi Ideue
2. Violin: Alexandra Bossak

F.X. Gruber:
"Stille Nacht" (Original Version, Adaptation: Holger Speck)
Vocal Ensemble Rastatt, Leitung: Holger Speck

MUSIC

LIVE MUSIC
60 | 30 MIN.



VERSION

Only music

RIGHTS
Not available worldwide.
Please contact your regional
distribution partner.

ORDER NUMBER
Diverse
16 x various lengths

Christmas Concert

66 4659 | 30 min.

Christmas Eve Vespers with the Dresdner Kreuzchor – With a tradition stretching back almost eight hundred years, the Dresdner Kreuzchor (Holy Cross Choir) is one of the oldest and most renowned boys' choirs in the world. Today it is comprised of some 150 choristers aged between nine and nineteen. The choir performs primarily as a mixed men's and boys' choir, the composition and number being determined by the works selected. Around eighty singers travel to guest performances.

Very few choirs can offer a repertoire as multi-faceted as that of the Dresdner Kreuzchor. The main focus is on the cultivation of spiritual and a-cappella music. Joint concerts with the Dresden Philharmonic and the Saechsische Staatskapelle Dresden (State Orchestra of Saxony) are an integral part of the city's musical life.

Every year at Christmas Eve thousands flock to the world-famous Church of the Holy Cross in Dresden to celebrate vespers together with its choristers and orchestral musicians. It was in the late 1930s that the conductor of the Dresdner Kreuzchor, Rudolf Mauersberger (1889–1971) compiled and re-arranged the most beautiful Christmas carols, orchestral compositions and biblical texts to create a magnificent celebration of Christ's birth. In impressive style this creation imparts the traditional sincerity of the Christmas spirit prevailing in central Germany. The cheerful and festive music, choristers singing with all their heart, churchgoers full of expectation, and not least the venerable Basilica of the Holy Cross dating back to the 13th century make this overall work of art an experience that is long remembered.

Celesta: Robert Seidel
Guitar: Peter Vanselow
Organ: Jakob Zscheischler
Organ: Kreuzchor organist Martin Schmeding
Dresdner Kreuzchor
Members of the Dresden Philharmonic

Under the direction of Kreuzchor conductor Roderich Kreile

Exultation! Jubilation!

68 4644 | 01 x 60 min.

or
"Fröhlich soll mein Herze springen" (Part I)
"Fürchtet Euch nicht!" (Part II)

66 4644 | 02 x 30 min.

Christmas concert with Korean soprano Sumi Jo, the Vokal Ensemble Köln, and the Capella Coloniensis conducted by Michael Schneider from St. Maria im Kapital, Cologne. From baroque to classical with an excursion into the romantic: this Christmas concert covers a broad range. In addition to famous Christmas carols such as "Fröhlich soll mein Herze springen", the programme includes the Christmas cantata "Fürchtet Euch nicht!" by Christoph Bernhard, Alessandro Scarlatti's coloratura-rich Italian pendant, and Adolphe Adam's celebrated Christmas carol "Cantique de Noel" which has been translated into many languages and is known in English as "O Holy Night".

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is represented with the motet "Exsultate, jubilate", KV 165. The Christmas spirit is maintained by Japanese virtuoso Hiro Kurosaki with Vivaldi's violin concerto RV 270 in E major "Il riposo – per il Natale". The highlight of the Christmas concert is the original version of "Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" composed in 1836 by Franz Xaver Gruber for flute, clarinets, horns, bassoon, strings, organ, soprano and baritone solo voices, and choir.

MUSIC

LIVE MUSIC
30 MIN.



VERSION Only Music

RIGHTS
Not available worldwide.
Please contact your regional
distribution partner.

ORDER NUMBER Diverse

Christmas Music of the Baroque 60 4422 | 02 x 30 min.

This Christmas concert includes works by Claudio Monteverdi, Michael Praetorius, Heinrich Schütz, Gottfried August Homilius, Johann Ludwig Bach and Johann Sebastian Bach. The “Rheinische Kantorei” has established itself as one of the best ensembles specialising in Early Music. Under their director Hermann Max, the singers always manage to combine historical authenticity of sound with vocal freshness and inherent musicality. The concert was recorded in St Severin’s church in Cologne.

The Christmas Miracle 66 4234 | 01 x 30 min.

Snow-covered forests, churches, and houses decorated for Christmas form the backdrop here for a film featuring internationally acclaimed soloists singing well-known German Christmas carols.

Christmas Concert 60 4257 | 02 x 30 min.

This Christmas concert features virtually unknown works from the 17th century which have been “unearthed” after some 300 years. Musica Antiqua have been leading interpreters of Early Music for twenty years now, in particular 17th century music. Under its conductor, Reinhard Goebel, the instrumental ensemble has made many excellent recordings of Baroque works as well as giving concerts all over the world. Our concert was recorded in St. Maria im Kapitol, a Romanesque church in Cologne.

Christmas Oratorio 60 4346 | 06 x 30 min.

Johann Sebastian Bach’s Christmas Oratorio is a group of six cantatas which the composer wrote for the festival of Christmas in the year 1734. That is to say they were written for performance during the church service on each of the three days of Christmas, on New Year’s Day, on the Sunday after New Year’s Day and at the Festival of Epiphany. It is not an oratorio in the usual sense of a dramatic portrayal of biblical history, but an account of the birth of Christ as told by the evangelist Luke, interwoven with lyrical reflections based on poetry by Picander. The Christmas Oratorio does not consist wholly of original writing by Bach: some parts of it he borrowed from older, secular works, merely providing them with new words. Nevertheless, there is no sense anywhere of a discrepancy between words and music. Bach himself united the cantatas into a single work, so there is every justification in performing them together as an oratorio.

- 01 Cantata on the First Day of the Festival of Christmas:**
Christians Be Joyful and Praise your Salvation
- 02 Cantata on the Second Day of the Festival of Christmas:**
And There Were in the Same Country Shepherds Abiding in the Field
- 03 Cantata on the Third Day of the Festival of Christmas:**
Hear, King of Angels!
- 04 Cantata on New Year’s Day:**
Come and Thank Him, Come and Praise Him!
- 05 Cantata on the Sunday After New Year’s Day:**
Glory be to God Almighty
- 06 Cantata on the Festival of the Epiphany:**
Lord, When Our Haughty Foes Assail Us

Barbara Schlick, soprano;
Ursula Eittinger, contralto;
Nico van der Meel, tenor;
Peter Kooy, baritone;
The Cologne Chamber Choir and
the Collegium Cartusianum;
Conductor: Peter Neumann