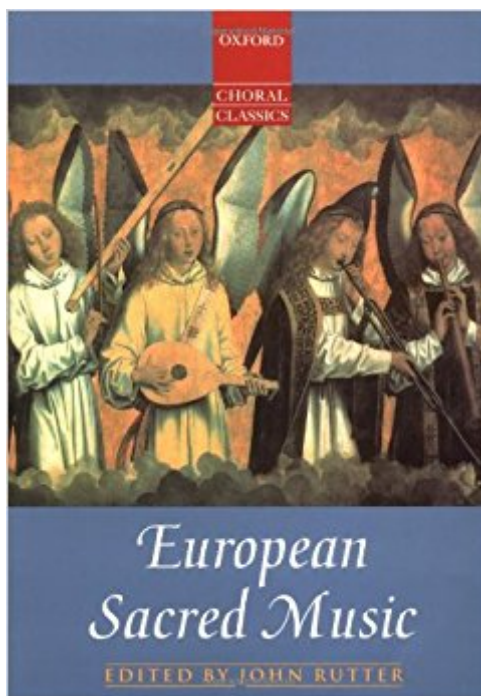


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Oxford Choral Classics: European Sacred Music



Synopsis

The Oxford Choral Classics gathers together over three hundred of the world's choral masterpieces into a unique series of seven volumes that span the whole of Western choral literature. Each volume contains all of the established classics of its genre under a single cover, in authoritative new editions and at a budget price. European Sacred Music is the second volume in the series and a fabulous value for money. From the Allegri Misereri to the Victoria O vos omnes, John Rutter and co-editor Clifford Bartlett have researched the best available sources and provided excellent new English singing translations and sensible, practical keyboard reductions.

Book Information

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Christian

Customer Reviews

Re: Passiontide Masterworks (Faber) - 'The selection is certainly worth singing, though it's a pity that there is such an overlap with the Oxford Choral Classics anthology of European Sacred Music which has 13 times as much music for under three times the price.' Early Music Review, Feb98'The volume is another formidable achievement: legible, usable, clear in intention and execution . . . its combination of established masterpieces with lesser-known delights should appeal to church and concert choirs alike.' The Singer

John Rutter was born in London in 1945 and studied music at Clare College, Cambridge. His

compositions embrace choral, orchestral, and instrumental music, and he has edited or co-edited various choral anthologies, including four Carols for Choirs volumes with Sir David Willcocks and the Oxford Choral Classics series. From 1975 to 1979 he was Director of Music at Clare College, and in 1981 he formed his own choir, the Cambridge Singers. He now divides his time between composition and conducting and is sought after as a guest conductor for the world's leading choirs and orchestras.

What's not to like about John Rutter? I was looking for some "new" music for the choir and did find a couple of pieces that I hadn't heard. Lovely arrangements.

I bought this book as a gift for friend of mine and he's happy with them. Unfortunately, I can't comment on the content of the book.

If you only ever purchase one volume of sacred choral music, this should be the one. Oxford + Rutter = 54 "Standards" of European choral music in an edition that is well researched, edited and engraved. Some notes from the preface: The period covered in this volume is from about 1500 up to the twentieth century... Sacred music from Britain appears in a separate volume. With only one or two exceptions, only complete, self-standing compositions are included, not extracts from larger works such as masses, cantatas and oratorios. With few exceptions, pieces with orchestra accompaniment (...) appear in the Sacred Choruses volume. With one exception, choral arrangements of music not original for choir or vocal ensemble are excluded, as is music in less than four voice parts. Advent, Christmas and Epiphany motets appear in a separate volume and are excluded. (From page iv of the preface) Now that we've listed what isn't included... well... what IS included is simply fantastic. I can't think of a more useful volume for concert or high-church choirs. The efficiency of purchasing a collection over individual octavos should not be overlooked. The average price of choral octavos these days is about \$2.00. With a volume like this, you couldn't even copy (from a legal source, of course) these pieces so cheaply. This volume makes a lovely gift for choral singers, too.

This compilation of choral gems is one of my prized possessions! It has some tried and true classics like the Cantique de Jean Racine (Gabriel Fauré) and some less mainstream but equally gorgeous pieces, like the Salve Regina (Francis Poulenc). There are some historical and performance notes included. To a teacher, a conductor, student: this is a book you will use and use;

there is something for everyone!

This is an excellent book of some of the better choral classics. I have sung some of them for years (Mozart's Ave verum) but others are not so familiar (Viadiana's Exaultate justi) to some old friends in a different arrangement (Franck's Panis Angelicus in SATB). Difficulty ranges from fairly easy to difficult, with something for everyone. A good collection for any serious classical chorus or church choir.

A usual Oxford Press is top rate! From the clean voice leading to the accurate translations - you simply can't beat it. For my madrigal choir this is a required book.

The only reason I ordered this book is because I am a member of a local choir and ordered it as it is in the choir's repertoire and contains a wide spread of Church Choral Music for SATB voices. I prefer to have my own copy rather than a library one.

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