

Totus tuus

Henryk Gorecki (b. 1933)

Gorecki was born in Czernica, a small Polish coalmining village. In 1955 he began studying composition at the State Higher School of Music in Katowice, where he continues to live. Though he has long been recognised in the musical world as one of Poland's leading composers, it was only with the phenomenal success of his *Third Symphony* that his name became widely known to the general public.

Totus tuus was first performed at a High Mass held by Pope John Paul II in Warsaw in June 1987. Its simple, contemplative stillness is typical of Gorecki's style. The title page carries the dedication '*To His Holiness Pope John Paul II, for his third pilgrimage to his homeland.*'

programme notes by John Bawden

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*Totus tuus sum, Maria,
Mater nostri redemptoris
Virgo Dei, Virgo pia,
Mater mundi salvatoris
Totus tuus sum, Maria.*