



Puschnig, Wolfgang Das Kirchlein von Tauern

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QUINTON presents Wolfgang Puschnig's contemporary opera "Das Kirchlein von Tauern".

To mark the 25th anniversary of Quinton Records and Wolfgang Puschnig's 70th birthday, the music label is striking a whole new note with Wolfgang Puschnig. Puschnig, known as co-founder of the Vienna Art Orchestra and a long-standing collaborator of QUINTON, steps away from his usual genre here to present himself as a sensitive musical dramatist who combines traditional narrative forms with a modern musical language. The libretto, written by Antonio Fian, is based on an old Carinthian legend about the origins of the church of St. Anton am Tauernteich in the Ossiacher Tauern.

"Rooted in Carinthia's world of legends"

With "Das Kirchlein von Tauern", the classical music label QUINTON Classical presents an extraordinary work of musical theatre that is deeply rooted in the folklore of Carinthia whilst simultaneously unfolding a contemporary musical language. The short opera, composed in 2023 for the Carinthian Summer by the renowned Austrian musician and composer Wolfgang Puschnig, offers a new perspective on an artist who has hitherto gained international recognition primarily as an outstanding jazz saxophonist.

The story unfolds as a poetic and dramatic parable about love, guilt and atonement: the fisherman Jakob falls under the spell of a mermaid's song, betrays his wife Magdalena and thereby sets off a chain of tragic events culminating in a deluge and the death of the young couple.

"But, Your Majesty, a human man has insulted me and, by extension, our entire people!

You must avenge us!" Nixe, from the libretto by Antonio Fian

The mermaid herself is condemned, as penance, to help build that church. Only upon the completion of the little church is she allowed to return to the water world.

In the musical realisation, catchy, song-like melodies meet finely nuanced, partly chromatic wind harmonies. Puschnig describes the underlying tone of his composition as characterised by a "light Carinthian melancholy" – an atmosphere that pervades the entire work. The result is a multi-layered sound that is reminiscent of stylised folk music whilst at the same time having an unmistakably contemporary feel. The vocal lines remain clearly intelligible at all times,

supported by sensitively balanced instrumentation that leaves plenty of space for the voices.

The alternation between standard German and dialect creates a particularly dramatic effect : whilst the narrator and main characters speak in formal language, the commenting choir uses the Carinthian dialect, thereby evoking the tradition of regional folk song.

The world premiere of “Das Kirchlein von Tauern” took place on 8 July 2023 at a location as impressive as it is authentic – right by the Tauernteich near Ossiach , the very setting of the legend itself. This close connection between music, landscape and narrative also characterises this recording, making it a compelling listening experience that bridges the gap between myth and the present day.

With this production, QUINTON Classical once again underlines its commitment to presenting extraordinary works outside the established repertoire and making musical cross-genre explorations accessible to a wide audience.

Featured artist

Mostviertler Birnbeitler
Quintett
Windobona Quintett

Band member

Andreas Grünberger	Tenor Horn
Anna Karanitsch	Flöte
Eva Maria Egarter	Fischermanns Frau (Sopran)
Herbert Klaus	Tuba
Isabella Schwarz	Wiener Oboe
Julienne Martine Spitzer	Klarinette
Klaus Hopfler	Wiener Horn
Mermaid	(alto) Elisabeth Wurzer, Nixe (Alt)
Mihael Strnisa	Ein Fischermann (Tenor)
Petra Seidl	Fagott
Robert Pussecker	Klarinette
Stefan Jandl	1. Trompete
Taras Kuzmych	Wassermann (Bass)
Vokalensemble Chorazòn	
Wolfgang Klaus	2. Trompete
Wolfram Berger	Erzähler

Composer

Puschnig, Wolfgang

Lyricist

Fian, Antonio Libretto

Producer

Rathammer, Andreas

Dirigent

Michael Paumgarten Leitung

Tracklist

1. Overture

00:31

	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
2.	In Kärnten, hoch über dem Ossiacher See	00:42
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
3.	1. Der Weg zum Teich	04:00
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
4.	In diesem Dorf lebte auch ein junger Fischer	00:41
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
5.	2. Der Fischer und seine Frau	02:51
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
6.	Jakob küsste seine Frau zum Abschied	00:41
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
7.	3. Wassermann, Abendruhe	03:23
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
8.	4A. Verführung; An jenem Tag	03:38
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
9.	4B. Empörung (Chor)	01:01
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
10.	Schließlich erwachten die beiden	00:40
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
11.	5. Trennung, Hier bin ich wieder, liebste Frau	03:08
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
12.	Und so blieb Jakob allein zurück	00:21
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
13.	6. Fischer, Klagelied	01:36
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
14.	Nacht für Nacht ruderte Jakob hinaus auf den Teich	00:44
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
15.	7. Ablehnung, Die Nixe und der Fischer	05:24
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
16.	Wütend gab Jakob	00:48
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
17.	8. Wassermann und Nixe	03:38
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
18.	Die Nixe aber wollte den Befehl des Wassermanns nicht dulden	00:32
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
19.	8B. Du alter Narr, was willst Du mit den Menschen	00:58
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
20.	9. Flut, Beschwörung (Chor und Nixe)	01:15
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
21.	10. Katastrophe	00:28
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
22.	Mit feurigen Augen	01:03
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
23.	10A. Katastrophe, Kommentar (Chor)	01:20
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
24.	11. Wassermann, Verbannung	01:45
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
25.	Und als der Sturm sich beruhigt	00:39
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
26.	12A. Kirchlein (Chor)	00:53
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
27.	Zwischenmusik	00:38
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
28.	Viele, viele Jahre vergingen	00:45
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	
29.	13. Schluss (Chor) Fleissig wärst, Dandle	01:41
	M: Wolfgang Puschnig T: Antonio Fian P: Quinton e.U	

