

Josef Marek

author's text

Cantus hominis

Josef Marek follows programme aims in many compositions. In the same way it is in his work *Cantus hominis* inspired by a book by Milan Slavický "Gideon Klein - fragment of life and work" (G. Klein, 1919 - 1945, absolvent of Vilém Kurz's master school, pianist and composer, victim of Nazi holocaust).

Author wrote for the premiere of this composition - performed by Berg orchestra on 25th October 1998 - a short commentary that we excerpt from: "I finished the two-sentence composition this year in June (1998). Contrastive sentences - *Ad inferos* (Towards the Shadows), *Ad Superos* (Towards the Heaven) - are connected attacca. The first one has a programme character relating to Gideon Klein's tragic life destiny, the second one is an expression of hope and faith that the return of horrifying time of terror will not repeat. When I look round the present world though, I find out I am obviously an irreparable idealist. I devoted this composition to Professor Eliška Kleinová."

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