Michael Haydn's colourful and inventive music is uplifting and expressive in equal measure, but his music has been eclipsed by that of his elder brother Joseph, and by Mozart, Sacred music is central to Michael Haydn's *oeuvre* and was considered by some contemporary critics as superior to Joseph's. Encompassing a broad range of textures and styles, parts of the Missa Sancti Nicolai Tolentini demonstrate Haydn's music at its most exhilarating and energetic, and his supreme gift for empfindsames ('sensitive') lyrical writing is also to be heard in the Vespers.

ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL Music Trust

Michael **HAYDN** (1737-1806)



1-12 Missa Sancti Nicolai Tolentini, MH 109 (1768) 36:40

13–20 Vesperae Pro Festo Sancti Innocentium (1774–87) (compiled by Nikolaus Lang, 1772–1837) 36:05

21 Anima Nostra, MH 452 (1787)

5:56

Jenni Harper, Emily Owen, Soprano Helen Charlston, Mezzo-soprano • Marko Sever, Organ **Lawes Baroque Players**

St Albans Cathedral Girls Choir • Tom Winpenny

A detailed track list and full recording and publishers' details can be found inside the booklet. The Latin sung texts and English translations are included in the booklet and may also be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/574163.htm • Booklet notes: Tom Winpenny

This recording has been generously supported by the Fraternity of the Friends of St Albans Abbey, St Albans Cathedral Music Trust, Anna and Freddie Klemming and Anna McCrum and David Entwistle. Chamber organ generously supplied by Vincent Woodstock.

Cover: Saint Nicholas of Tolentino overcoming the temptations of the Devil (1588) by Santi di Tito (1536-1603)



NAXOS

MICHAEL HAYDN: Missa

Sancti

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Playing Time 78:54



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Tolentini