

LAST JUDGMENT

CARISSIMI

CREATION
March 2027

A masterpiece of the Roman Baroque, Giacomo Carissimi's *Historia di Jephthé*, composed around 1649 for the Oratory of the Santissimo Crocifisso in Rome, stands among the highest achievements of Italian sacred music.

Carissimi recounts the biblical story of Jephthah, who, before going into battle, makes a rash vow to God: should he return victorious, he will sacrifice the first person he encounters upon his return. Tragically, that person is his only daughter. From this fatal error emerges a profoundly moving dramatic reversal: military triumph gives way to mourning, culminating in the celebrated final chorus, *Plorate*, whose emotional power has captivated Europe since the 17th century.

The *Last Judgment*, extends this reflection on excess and its consequences. The work weaves together passages from both the Old and New Testaments into a vast theatrical fresco. It is perhaps the most powerful musical evocation of the Last Judgment since Michelangelo's monumental fresco, painted a century earlier in Rome, the city where Carissimi spent his entire life.

From Jephthah's reckless vow to the inexorable vision of the Last Judgment, this program traces a single dramatic arc: humanity confronted with its own failings and the inescapable reality of divine judgment.

TEAM : 28 PEOPLE

6 soloists - 6 choristers - 12 instrumentalists
1 conductor

1 production - 1 technician - 1 admin
Organ and double bass to be provided + tuning