

Missá Luba offers western choruses an opportunity to learn something about African music by actually singing it. Due to the efforts of Father Guido Haazen and the African singers with whom he worked, this mass was not only created but notated and recorded as well.

It may be performed exactly as written, with or without the improvisations in the places indicated. (The drum improvisations should provide no real problem, but the vocal improvisations may prove more difficult.)

Missá Luba was originally sung by a tenor soloist with a choir of boys and men. However, the solo part may be performed by a soprano, and the treble parts sung by women. Indeed, a great deal of freedom and imagination should be used in relation to the whole work.

As Father Haazen says: "The music of the *Missá Luba* is mainly the product of a collective improvisation. What is offered in the Philips album (PCC206/PCC606) is simply and solely a reproduction of the concrete improvisation which took place during the recording.

African music differs infinitely from our Western rhythmic feeling. The drums, especially the tom-toms which are used as an integral part of the music, always adhere to a very strict, inexorable rhythmic beat. This basic rhythm serves as a canvas on which the other instruments base their improvisations, and usually opens the song. It is indicated by the "Sakasaka" (gourd). It is especially recommended, when performing, to follow the notated figure.

But this notation of the *Missá Luba* does not imply that one must perform the mass as written! If desired this written version of the mass may be used as a suitable springboard for those who will venture upon their own new creation of this original African mass."

Approximate duration: 14 minutes.

KYRIE

Arranged by Guido Haazen

Medium tempo

Solo Tenor *f*
 * Women's Voices
 * Women's Voices
 Men's Voices

Ky - rie
 Mer - cy,

Lord, *mf* e - le - i - son, Ky - rie
 have mer - cy up - on - us. Mer - cy,

mf Ky - rie, Ky - rie,
 Mer - cy, mer - cy,

mf Ky - rie, Ky - rie,
 Mer - cy, mer - cy,

mf Ky - rie, Ky - rie,
 Mer - cy, mer - cy,

* Children's voices are preferable.

** A maracas may be substituted for gourd.

10

Lord, _____ e - le - i - son, _____ Ky - rie _____
 Have mer - cy up - on - us. _____ Mer - cy, _____

Ky - rie, _____ Ky - rie, _____
 mer - cy, _____ mer - cy, _____

Ky - rie, _____ Ky - rie, _____
 mer - cy, _____ mer - cy, _____

Ky - rie, _____ Ky - rie, _____
 mer - cy, _____ mer - cy, _____

Lord, _____ e - le - i - son, _____ Ky - rie _____
 have mer - cy up - on - us. _____ Mer - cy, _____

Ky - rie, _____ Ky - rie, _____
 mer - cy, _____ mer - cy, _____

Ky - rie, _____ Ky - rie, _____
 mer - cy, _____ mer - cy, _____

Ky - rie, _____ Ky - rie, _____
 mer - cy, _____ mer - cy, _____