

AVE VERUM CORPUS

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)

Arranged by RUSSELL ROBINSON

Performance Notes

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is probably the most famous of all composers, certainly the most famous “classical” composer. (We generally attribute the classical period to the years 1750 to 1820.) He lived only 35 years, yet composed over 600 pieces of all types. This famous motet (a sacred choral work) was written in 1791, the year of Mozart’s death. It is one of the most popular choral works ever written by Mozart and was originally written for four-part choir, organ, and strings.

The English translation of this Latin text speaks to the following Christian prayer:

Jesus, word of God incarnate, born of the virgin Mary.

On the cross, his flesh was torn with nails to atone for the sins of man.

Cleanse your people by your blood and water.

Feed us with thy broken body, now and forever more.

However, as with other Latin texts, they cannot be performed stylistically correct in English. That is why the English translation has not been written under the Latin text in this edition (so that it can’t be sung in English). Actually, Latin is much easier to sing than English, because it utilizes five pure vowels. They are: aw, ehw, ee, oh, and oo. Notice the pronunciation of aw rather than ah and ehw rather than eh. In this manner a choral blend may be achieved. Make sure that the singers sing the “ee” vowel with an oo on the lips thereby blending the vowel.

This piece should be sung reserved and never pushed. In addition, try to achieve proper Latin text accents such as:

Á - ve vé-rum cór-pus

Ex-á-mi-ne per-fo-rá-tum

I hope your choir enjoys performing this beautiful Mozart work.

Russell Robinson

AVE VERUM CORPUS

Two-Part, accompanied

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)

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Approximate performance time: 2:30

Slow, ♩ = 80

I

A - ve, — A - ve

II

A - ve, A - ve

KEYBOARD

Slow, ♩ = 80

mp

p

ve - rum — cor - pus, na - tum de Ma - ri - a

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II *mf*

Vir - gi - ne, ve - re pas - sum,

mf

Vir - gi - ne, ve - re pas - sum,

II

mf

im - mo - la - tum in cru ce pro

f

im - mo - la - tum in cru - ce pro

f

f

ho - mi - ne:

ho - mi - ne:

mf

ho - mi - ne:

22 *mp* *mf*

Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum. Un - da

mp *mf*

Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum. Un - da

22

rit. *p* **30** *a tempo* *mp*

flu - xit et san - gui - ne: E - sto

p *mp*

flu - xit et san - gui - ne: E - sto no - bis

30

rit. *p* *a tempo* *mp*

cresc.

no - bis prae - gus - ta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi -

cresc.

prae - gus - ta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi -

cresc.

f 38 *decresc.* *p*

ne, in mor - tis ex -

f *decresc.* *p*

ne, in mor - tis ex -

38 *f* *decresc.* *p*

a - mi - ne.

a - mi - ne.

rit.

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