

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 more than 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:

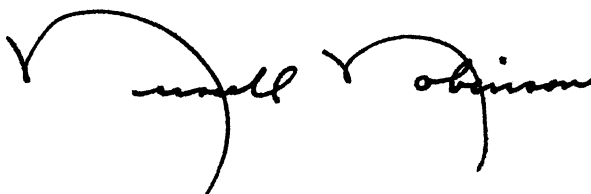
*Jesus, Word of God incarnate, born of the Virgin Mary.
On the cross, his flesh was torn with nails to atone for the sins of man.
Cleanse your people by your blood and water.
Feed us with your broken body, now and forever more.*

However, as with other Latin texts, this motet cannot be performed stylistically correct in English. For this reason, the English translation has not been written under the Latin text in this edition (so that it can't be sung in English). Actually, the Latin is much easier to sing than English, because it uses five pure vowels: *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 cōr-pus
Ex-á-mi-ne per-fo-rá-tum

I hope your choir enjoys performing this beautiful Mozart work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Johnson", with a large, sweeping flourish on the left side.

AVE VERUM CORPUS

SATB, accompanied

Performance time: approx. 2:30

Traditional Text

Music by WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

Arranged by RUSSELL ROBINSON (ASCAP)

Slow (♩ = 80)

3

p

SOPRANO

A - ve, A - ve

ALTO

A - ve, A - ve

TENOR

A - ve, A - ve

BASS

A - ve, A - ve

ACCOMP.

mp

3

5

p

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

p

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

p

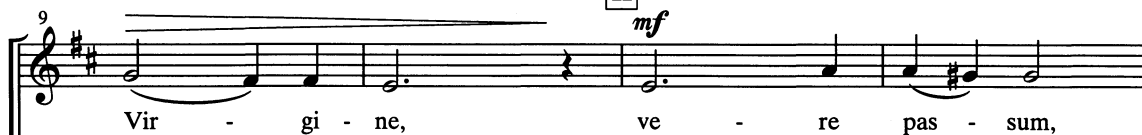
ve - rum cor - pus, na - tum de Ma - ri - a

p

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

7

11

mf*mf**mf**mf*

11

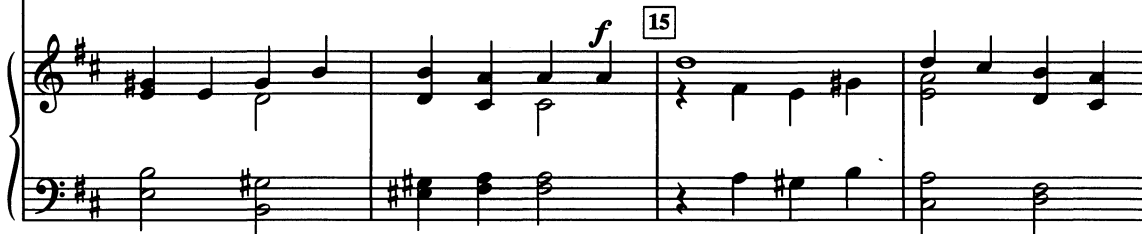
mf

13

15

f*f**f**f*

15

f

17

ho - mi - ne:

ho - mi - ne:

8 ho - mi - ne:

ho - mi - ne:

mf

22 *mp* Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum un - da *mf* 26

mp Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum un - da *mf*

mp Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum un - da *mf*

mp Cu - jus la - tus per - fo - ra - tum un - da *mf*

22 *mp* 26 *mf*

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

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

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

8 flu - xit et san - gui - ne: e - sto

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

30 *a tempo* *mp*

rit. *p* *mp*

32 34 *cresc.*

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

cresc.

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

cresc.

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

cresc.

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

34 *cresc.*

37 *f* 38 *decresc.* *p*

ne, in mor - tis ex -

f *decresc.* *p*

ne, in mor - tis ex -

f *decresc.* *p*

ne, in mor - tis ex -

f *decresc.* *p*

ne, in mor - tis ex -

38 *f* *decresc.* *p*

f *decresc.* *p*

42

a - mi - ne.

a - mi - ne.

a - mi - ne.

a - mi - ne.

42 *rit.*