

# CAMBRIDGE TAVERNER CHOIR

Director: Owen Rees

Music by Thomas Tallis and William Byrd

Jesus College Chapel  
Sunday 30th April 1989  
at 8.30 pm



## ORDER OF PROGRAMME

Tallis: Anthems and Motets

Salvator Mundi

Sancte Deus

Videte Miraculum

Spem in Alium

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INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

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Byrd: Mass Propers for All Saints (Gradualia, 1605)

Introit: Gaudeamus Omnes

Gradual: Timete Dominum

Offertory: Iustorum Animae

Communion: Beati Mundo Corde

Tallis: Motet and Anthem

O Nata Lux

Loquebantur Variis Linguis

Salvator Mundi salva nos, qui per crucem et sanguinem redemisti nos: auxiliare nobis, te deprecamur, Deus noster.

O Saviour of the world, save us, who by Thy cross and Thy blood hast redeemed us: grant us Thine aid we beseech Thee, our God.

Sancte Deus, sancte fortis, sancte et immortalis: miserere nobis. Nunc, Christe, te petimus miserere quaesumus, qui venisti redimere perditos: noli damnare redemptos, quia per crucem tuam redemisti mundum. Amen. Holy God, Holy and Strong, Holy and Immortal, have mercy upon us. Now, O Christ, we pray Thee: have mercy upon us, we beseech Thee. Thou who comest to redeem the lost, do not condemn them Thou hast bought, because by Thy cross Thou hast redeemed the world. Amen.

Videte Miraculum matris Domini: concepit virgo virilis ignara consortii, stans onerata nobili onere Maria: et matrem se laetam cognosci, quae se nescit uxorem. Haec speciosum forma prae filiis hominum castis concepit visceribus, et benedicta in aeternum Deum nobis protulit et hominem. Gloria.. Behold the miracle of the mother of the Lord: a virgin has conceived though she knows not a man: Mary, who stands laden with her noble burden: knowing not that she is a wife, she rejoices to be a mother. She has conceived in her chaste womb one who is beautiful beyond the sons of men, and, blessed for ever, she has brought forth God and Man for us. Glory be to the Father..

Spem in Alium nunquam habui prater in te, Deus Israel, qui irascaris, et propitius eris, et omnia peccata hominum in tribulatione dimittis. Domine Deus, Creator coeli et terrae, respice humilitatem nostram. I have never put my hope in any other but in you, God of Israel, who will be angry and yet become again gracious, and who forgives all the sins of suffering man. Lord God, Creator of Heaven and Earth, look upon our lowliness.

Gaudeamus Omnes in Domino diem festum celebrantes sub honore sanctorum omnium de quorum solemnitate gaudent angeli et collaudant filium Dei. Exultate iusti in Domino, rectos decet collaudatio. Gloria Patri.. Rejoice we all in the Lord, celebrating a holy day in honour of all the saints in whose solemnity the angels are joyful and glorify the Son of God. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous, for it becometh well the just to be glad. Glory..

Timete Dominum omnes sancti eius, quoniam nihil deest timentibus eum. Inquirentes autem Dominum non deficient omni bono. Alleluia. Venite ad me omnes qui laboratis et onerati estis, et ego reficiam vos. Alleluia. O fear the Lord, all ye Saints of his, for they that fear him lack nothing. But they that seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good. Alleluia. Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Alleluia.

Iustorum Animae in manu Dei sunt: et non tanget illos tormentum mortis. Visi sunt oculis insipientium mori: illi autem sunt in pace. The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and the torment of death shall not touch them: in the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, but they are in peace.

Beati Mundo Corde quoniam ipsi Deum videbunt: Beati pacifici quoniam filii Dei vocabuntur: Beati qui persecutionem patiuntur propter iustitiam, quoniam ipsorum est regnum caelorum. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God: Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

O Nata Lux de lumine, Iesu redemptor saeculi, Dignare clemens supplicum, Laudes precesque sumere: Qui carne quondam contegi, Dignatus es properditis. Nos membra confer effici, Tui beati corporis. O light of light, by love inclined, Jesu redeemer of mankind, with loving kindness deign to hear from suppliant voices praise and prayer. Thou who to raise our souls from hell didst deign in fleshly form to dwell, vouchsafe us when our race is run, in Thy fair body to be one.

Loquebantur Variis Linguis apostoli, Alleluia, magnalia Dei, Alleluia. Repleti sunt omnes Spiritu Sancto, et ceperunt loqui magnalia Dei, Alleluia. Gloria.. The apostles were speaking in different tongues, Alleluia, of the great works of God, Alleluia. They were filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak of the great works of God. Alleluia. Glory be to the Father..

THOMAS TALLIS (c.1505-1585) served in the Chapel Royal under four of the five Tudor sovereigns of England, Henry VIII, Edward, Mary and Elizabeth. His surviving music reflects the religious vacillations which these monarchs oversaw. For the Sarum Rite Tallis produced settings of the Ordinary of the Mass, and also polyphonic hymns and responsories which adorned the Offices of Matins, Lauds, Vespers and Compline. In these works the plainchant is incorporated in an inner voice, presented in equal semibreves. Among the most richly scored of the responsories are *Videte Miraculum*, for six voices, and *Loquebantur Variis Linguis*, for seven. Although the text of *O Nata Lux* is a hymn, various features (the absence of plainchant, the repeat of the last line of text) suggest that this is not a liturgical piece.

In England it had become a regular practice by the seventeenth century to perform a votive antiphon dedicated either to The Blessed Virgin Mary or to Christ at a separate devotion out of quire after Compline or at some other time. *Sancte Deus* is an antiphon to Jesus, set by Tallis for four voices in a highly sectional manner.

In 1575 Tallis published in conjunction with William Byrd a collection of motets entitled Cantiones quae ab argumento sacrae vocantur. *Salvator Mundi*, which opens this anthology, is a thoroughly imitative work which may be Elizabethan in date.

The origins of *Spem in Alium* may not be only un-liturgical but even secular. There is some evidence that the piece was commissioned by the Catholic Duke of Norfolk as an English "reply" to Striggio's forty-part *Ecce Beatam Lucem*. Tallis's work may have been first performed not in church but in the Long Gallery of a nobleman's house, perhaps the London house of the Earl of Arundel, in about 1570.

WILLIAM BYRD (c.1543-1623) may have been a pupil of Tallis, and like the older composer he was a distinguished member of the Chapel Royal for much of his career. Byrd remained a Catholic all his life, and, in his later years, seems to have turned increasingly to the composition of liturgical music for the Roman Rite. In 1605 and 1607 he published two volumes of Gradualia, a vast collection of music for the proper of the mass covering the major feasts of the Church year. The four items of the mass for All Saints' Day combine conciseness and colourful expression in a way typical of this repertory.

### **The Cambridge Taverner Choir**

Sopranos: Alicia Carroll, Josie Dixon, Veronica Henderson, Virginia Knight, Caroline Preston Bell, Alison Smart, Sally Terris.

Altos: James Black, Mike Entwisle, Rupert Preston Bell, Mel Taylor

Tenors: Steven Harold, Philip Mills, Tom Salmon

Basses: James Durran, Jeremy Hayter, Gary Snapper, Frank Salmon

### **The Spem in Alium Choirs**

Choir 1: Helen Garrison, A.N. Other, Steven Harold, David Thompson, John Graham-Maw.

Choir 2: Amanda Dean, James Black, Simon Godsill, Stirling Lambert, Jonathan Bryans

Choir 3: Caroline Preston Bell, Zoe Mundy, Tim Dallosso, Philip Mills, Frank Salmon

Choir 4: Alicia Carroll, Nathalia Fetherston Dilke, Giles Brightwell, David Salmon, Gary Snapper

Choir 5: Alison Smart, Lucy Winkett, Tim Brown, Mark Griffiths, Paul Watson

Choir 6: Sally Terris, Virginia Knight, Julian Podger, Julian Ripoon, Mike Taylor

Choir 7: Julia Pike, Ian Moore, Rupert Preston Bell, Simon Marshall, Jeremy Hayter

Choir 8: Josie Dixon, Mel Taylor, Mike Entwisle, Tom Salmon, James Durran

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