

# Great Sacred Music

## Sunday, June 20, 2021

Sir William Walton: Set me as a seal upon thine heart  
Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, John Scott

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina: Super flumina Babylonis  
Choir of Clare College, Cambridge, Timothy Brown

John Rutter: O be joyful in the Lord  
Cambridge Singers; City of London Sinfonia, John Rutter

English composer Sir William Walton (1902-1983) began his musical life as a chorister at Christ Church, Oxford. Palestrina's motet is a setting of Psalm 137:1-2. John Rutter's setting of the Jubilate Deo (O be joyful in the Lord) can be found on a recording which John and the Cambridge Singers released in 2004.

William Billings: I am the Rose of Sharon  
Quire Cleveland, Ross W. Duffin

Jacobus Gallus: Domine Deus exaudi orationem  
Huelgas Ensemble, Paul van Nevel

Nadia Boulanger: Prelude in F minor  
Matthieu Latreille, organ

William Billings (1746-1800) was an early American composer of hymns. Jacobus Gallus, also known as Jakob Handl (1550-1591), was born in Slovenia. He was heavily influenced by the Venetian style of the Gabriellis, Claudio Merulo and others. French teacher and composer Nadia Boulanger (1887-197) taught and helped shaped the musical careers of many musicians including Quincy Jones, Igor Markevitch, and many more.

Commentary: Bob Unger

Anonymous: Agincourt Carol, "Deo Gracias Anglia"  
Alamire, David Skinner

Kievo-Pechersky Chant: Blessed is the Man  
Alumni of the Yale Russian Chorus, Denis Mickiewicz

Gabriel Faure: Ave Maria, Op.93  
Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, Richard Marlow

The Agincourt Hymn is a 15th-century carol. Denis Mickiewicz founded the Yale Russian Chorus in 1953. French composer Gabriel Faure (1845-1924) linked Romanticism with Modernism.

Julian Wachner: Behold the Tabernacle of God  
Elora Festival Singers, Noel Edison

Michael Bloss, organ

Marcel Dupré: Placare Christe servulis  
John Scott, organ  
Willis/Mander organ in St. Paul's Cathedral, London

American composer Julian Wachner (1969-) is Organist and Director of the Arts for Trinity Church, Wall Street, New York. French composer Marcel Dupré's short Toccata comes from his Tombeau de Titleouze.

J.S. Bach: Cantata 21, "Ich hatte viel Bekummernis"  
Choir of St. Thomas Church, Leipzig; New Bach Collegium Musicum, Hans-Joachim Rotz  
Arleen Auger, soprano; Peter Schreier, tenor; Siegfried Lorenz, bass

The German translates as "My heart was deeply troubled". This rather lengthy cantata was first performed in Weimar in 1713. Most commentators admire the complex, fugal musical writing and consider this one of Bach's finest cantatas.

Felix Mendelssohn: Hora est  
Chamber Choir of Europe, Nicol Matt

Felix Mendelssohn composed this anthem in 1828 at age 19.

Daniel E. Gawthrop: Exultate  
Mary Mozelle, organ  
1991 Mander/1928 E.M. Skinner organ in Princeton University Chapel

Besides being an accomplished composer, Daniel E. Gawthrop is an organist, as you will begin to realize during the playing of his "Exultate."

Philippe de Monte: Missa "La dolce vista"  
Hilliard Ensemble  
Bruce Dickey, cornett; Charles Toet, tenor trombone; Titia de Zwart, viola da gamba

Philippe de Monte (1521–1603) was one of the most prolific composers of his era. He composed over one thousand madrigals and two hundred-fifty motets.

W.A. Mozart: Litaniae de venerabili altaris Sacramento, K. 243  
Gloriae Dei Cantores; Vox Caeli Sinfonia, Richard K. Pugsley  
Christine Helfrich, soprano; Estelle Cole, alto;  
Nathanael Reese, tenor; Luke Norman, bass

Ryan Turner writes: "The Litaniae de venerabili altaris Sacramento is the last and most mature of his four Litany settings. Composed in 1776 - before the Masses, the Requiem, and the Vesper settings, it was first performed on Palm Sunday in Salzburg. The Sacramental Litany is a prayer of supplication, with a steady repetition of acclamations, and a testimony of praise and veneration of the Eucharist."

George Frideric Handel: Chandos Anthem No. 10, "The Lord is my light"  
Choir of King's College, Cambridge; Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Sir David Willcocks

April Cantelo, soprano; Ian Partridge, tenor; Andrew Davis, organ continuo

Handel wrote the eleven Chandos anthems whilst in the employ of James, Duke of Chandos from 1717-1719. Some musicologists have opined that these anthems were in fact sketches for much larger works HAndel would compose later on.

Joao Lourenco Rebelo: Magnificat a 13

The Sixteen; His Majesties Sagbutts and Cornetts, Harry Christophers

Portugese Renaissance composer Joao Lourenco Rebelo (1610-1661) was the last composer of his era.