

Vespers of 1610 – Monteverdi: Words & Translation

1. Deus in Adjutorium.

Ps. LXIX,1

Deus, in adjutorium meum intende, Domine, ad adjuvandum me festina.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum.

Amen. Allelujah.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me: make haste, O Lord, to help me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, without end.

Amen. Allelujah.

2. Dixit Dominus.

Ps. CIX

Dixit Dominus Domino meo:

Sede a dextris meis: donec ponam inimicos tuos scabellum pedum tuorum.

Virgam virtutis tuae emittet Dominus ex Sion: dominare in medio inimicorum tuorum.

Tecum principium in die virtutis tuae in splendoribus sanctorum: ex utero ante luciferum genui te.

Juravit Dominus, et non poenitebit eum: tu es sacerdos in aeternum secundum ordinem Melchisedech.

Dominus a dextris tuis, confregit in die irae suae reges.

Judicabit in nationibus, implebit ruinas: conquassabit capita in terra multorum.

De torrente in via bibet: propterea exaltabit caput.

Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

The Lord said to my Lord, sit at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

The Lord shall send out the rod of thy strength from Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.

At thy beginning in thy day of glory in the splendour of the holy places, before the first light I begat thee.

The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent: thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedech.

The Lord at thy right hand shall destroy kings in the day of his wrath.

He shall judge among the nations, fill them with the dead, and smash heads in many lands.

He shall drink of the brook in the way: thus shall he raise his head.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, without end. Amen.

3. Nigra Sum.

Cant. cant. 1,4; [2,3;] 2,11-12

Nigra sum, sed formosa, filiae Jerusalem.

Ideo dilexit me rex et introduxit me in cubiculum suum et dixit mihi:

Surge, amica mea, et veni.

Jam hiems transiit, imber abiit, et recessit.

Flores apparuerunt in terra nostra, tempus putationis advenit.

I am black but comely, ye daughters of Jerusalem.

Therefore the king hath delighted in me and brought me to his chamber and said to me:

Arise, my love, and come.

For the winter is passed, the rain is over and gone;

Flowers have appeared in our land, the time of pruning is at hand.

4. Laudate Pueri Domine.

Ps. CXII

Laudate, pueri, Dominum: laudate nomen Domini.

Sit nomen Domini benedictum, ex hoc nunc, et usque in saeculum.

A solis ortu usque ad occasum, laudabile nomen Domini.

Excelsus super omnes gentes Dominus, et super coelos gloria ejus.

Quis sicut Dominus Deus noster, qui in altis habitat, Et humilia respicit in coelo et in terra?

Suscitans a terra inopem, et de stercore erigens pauperem:

Ut collocet eum cum principibus, cum principibus populi sui.

Qui habitare facit sterilem in domo, matrem filiorum laetantem.

Praise the Lord, ye servants: praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time forth for evermore.

From the rising to the setting of the sun, the Lord's name be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the Lord our God, who dwelleth on high, Yet respecteth humbly what is in heaven and earth?

He raiseth the simple from the dust, and lifteth the poor from the mire.

That he may set him with princes, even the princes of his people.

Who maketh the barren woman to keep house, a joyful mother of children.

Gloria Patri et Filio et
Spiritu Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in
saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
without end. Amen.

5. Pulchra Es. *Cant. cant. 6,3-4*

Pulchra es, amica mea, suavis et decora
filia Jerusalem.

Pulchra es, amica mea, suavis et decora sicut
Jerusalem, terribilis ut castrorum acies ordinata.

Averte oculos tuos a me, quia me avolare fecerunt.

Thou art beautiful, my love, sweet and comely daughter
of Jerusalem.

Thou art beautiful, my love, sweet and comely as
Jerusalem, terrible as an army arrayed for battle.

Turn thine eyes from me, for they make me flee away.

6. Laetatus Sum. *Ps. CXXI*

Laetatus sum in his, quae dicta sunt mihi:
in domum Domini ibimus.

Stantes erant pedes nostri, in atriis tuis, Jerusalem.

Jerusalem, quae aedificatur ut civitas:
cujus participatio ejus in idipsum.

Illuc enim ascenderunt tribus, tribus Domini
testimonium Israel ad confitendum nomini
Domini.

Quia illic sederunt sedes in iudicio, sedes super
domum David.

Rogate quae ad pacem sunt Jerusalem:
et abundantia diligentibus te.

Fiat pax in virtute tua:
et abundantia in turribus tuis.

Propter fratres meos, et proximos meos, loquebar
pacem de te:

Propter domum Domini Dei nostri, quaesivi
bona tibi.

Gloria Patri et Filio et
Spiritu Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in
saecula saeculorum. Amen.

I was glad when they said to me:
we will go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem, that is built as a city
that is at one with itself.

For thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to the
testimony of Israel, to give thanks to the name of the
Lord.

For there are the seats of judgement, the thrones of the
house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls,
and plenty within thy palaces.

For my brethren, and my companions, I will seek
peace for thee.

For the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do
thee good.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
without end. Amen.

7. Duo Seraphim. *Is. 6,3; Joh. Epist. I. 5,7-8*

Duo Seraphim clamabant alter ad alterum:
Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Plena est omnis terra gloria ejus.

Tres sunt, qui testimonium dant in coelo:
Pater, Verbum et Spiritus Sanctus:
et hi tres unum sunt.

Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Plena est omnis terra gloria ejus.

Two seraphim cried to one another:
Holy is the Lord God of Sabaoth.

The whole earth is full of his glory.

There are three who bear witness in heaven:
the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit:
and these three are one.

Holy is the Lord God of Sabaoth.

The whole earth is full of his glory.

8. Nisi Dominus. *Ps. CXVI*

Nisi Dominus aedificaverit domum, in vanum
laboraverunt qui aedificant eum.

Nisi Dominus custodierit civitatem, frustra vigilat
qui custodit eam.

Vanum est vobis ante lucem surgere:
surgite postquam sederitis, qui manducatis panem
doloris.

Cum dederit dilectis suis somnum:
ecce, haereditas Domini filii: merces,
fructus ventris.

Sicut sagittae in manu potentis:
ita filii excussorum.

Unless the Lord build the house, they labour in vain
who build it.

Except the Lord keep the city, he watcheth in vain
who keepeth it.

It is vain for you to rise before dawn:
rise later, ye who have eaten the bread of
sorrows;

When he will give sleep to his chosen.
Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord; a reward, the
fruit of the womb.

As arrows in the hands of the mighty,
thus are the children of outcasts.

Beatus vir qui implevit desiderium suum ex ipsis:
non confundetur cum loquetur inimicis suis in
porta.

Gloria Patri et Filio et
Spiritu Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in
saecula saeculorum. Amen.

9. Audi Coelum.

Audi, coelum, audi verba mea plena
desiderio et perfusa gaudio. *Audio*

Dic, quaeso, mihi: Quae est ista quae
consurgens ut aurora rutilat, ut
benedicam? *Dicam*

Dic nam ista pulchra ut luna,
electa ut sol, replet laetitia
terras, coelos, maria. *Maria*

Maria virgo illa dulcis praedicta de
propheta Ezekiel, porta orientalis? *Talis*

Illa sacra et felix porta per
quam mors fuit expulsa
introduxit autem vita? *Ita*

Quae semper tutum est medium
inter homines et Deum pro culpis
remedium? *Medium*

Omnes hanc ergo sequamur qua cum
gratia mereamur vitam aeternam.
Consequamur. *Sequamur*

Praestet nobis Deus, Pater hoc
et Filius et Mater cujus nomen
invocamus dulce miseris
solamen. *Amen*

Benedicta es, virgo Maria, in
saeculorum saecula.

10. Lauda Jerusalem.

Ps. CXLVII

Lauda, Jerusalem, Dominum:
lauda Deum tuum, Sion.

Quoniam confortavit seras portarum tuarum:
benedixit filiis tuis in te.

Qui posuit fines tuos pacem:
et adipe frumenti satiat te.

Qui emittet eloquium suum terrae:
velociter currit sermo ejus.

Qui dat nivem sicut lanam:
nebulam sicut cinerem spargit.

Mittit crystallum suam sicut buccellas:
ante faciem frigoris ejus quis sustinebit?

Emittet verbum suum, et liquefaciet ea:
flabit spiritus ejus, et fluent aquae.

Qui annunciat verbum suum Jacob:
justitias et judicia sua Israel.

Non fecit taliter omni nationi:
et judicia sua non manifestavit eis.

Gloria Patri et Filio et
Spiritu Sancto.

Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in
saecula saeculorum. Amen.

11. Sonata Sopra "Sancta Maria".

Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis.

Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them: they
shall not be ashamed when they confront their enemies
in the way.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
without end. Amen.

Hear, O heaven, hear my words full of
longing and pervaded by joy. *I hear*

Tell me, I pray, who is she that shines like
the dawn in her rising, that I might bless
her? *I will tell*

Tell me, for she, beautiful as the moon,
radiant as the sun, fills with joy the earth,
heavens and seas. *Mary*

Mary, that sweet virgin foretold by the
prophet Ezekiel, the portal of the East? *Even she*

That sacred and happy portal through
which death was driven out
and life brought in? *Even so*

She who is always a sure intermediary
between men and God, the cure for our
sins? *The Mediator*

Let us all therefore follow her through
whose grace we may be granted eternal
life. Let us go with her. *Let us follow*

May God help us, God the Father, and the
Son, and the Mother on whose sweet
name we call as a comfort to the
wretched. *Amen*

Thou art blessed, virgin Mary, for
ever and ever.

Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem;
praise thy God, O Zion.

For he hath strengthened the bars of thy gates;
he hath blessed thy children within thee.

He maketh peace in thy borders,
and filleth thee with the finest wheat.

He sendeth his commandment to the earth;
his word runneth swiftly.

He giveth snow like wool;
he scattereth hoar frost like ashes.

He casteth forth his ice like morsels;
before his cold who can stand?

He sendeth out his word, and melteth them;
his spirit blows, and the waters flow.

He sheweth his word unto Jacob,
his statutes and judgements to Israel.

He hath not dealt so with any nation;
and his judgments he hath not made manifest.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
without end. Amen.

Holy Mary, pray for us.

12. Ave Maris Stella.

Ave maris stella,
Dei Mater alma
Atque semper Virgo
Felix coeli porta.
Sumens illud Ave
Gabrielis ore,
Funda nos in pace,
Mutans Evae nomen.
Solve vincla reis,
Profer lumen caecis,
Mala nostra pelle,
Bona cuncta posce.
Monstra te esse matrem,
Sumat per te preces,
Qui pro nobis natus,
Tulit esse tuus.
Virgo singularis,
Inter omnes mitis,
Nos culpis solutos,
Mites fac et castos.
Vitam praesta puram,
Iter para tutum,
Ut videntes Jesum
Semper collaetemur.
Sit laus Deo Patri,
Summo Christo decus,
Spiritui Sancto
Tribus honor unus. Amen.

Hail, star of the sea,
bountiful mother of God
and ever Virgin,
happy gate of heaven.
Taking that Ave
from the mouth of Gabriel,
preserve us in peace,
giving Eve a new name.
Loose the chains of the bound,
bring light to the blind,
drive out our ills,
invoke all things good.
Show thyself to be a mother,
may he who was born for us
receive our prayers through thee.

Singular virgin,
more gentle than all,
absolve us from sin and
make us gentle and pure.
Grant us a pure life,
prepare a safe way,
that in seeing Jesus
we may rejoice for ever.
Praise be to God the Father,
glory to Christ on high,
and with the Holy Spirit
honour to the three in one. Amen.

13. Magnificat.

Luc. 1,46-55

Magnificat anima mea Dominum:
et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.
Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae:
ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes
generationes.
Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est:
et sanctum nomen ejus.
Et misericordia ejus a progenie in progenies
timentibus eum.
Fecit potentiam in brachio suo:
dispersit superbos
mente cordis sui.
Deposuit potentes de sede, et
exaltavit humiles.
Esurientes implevit bonis:
et divites dimisit inanes.
Suscepit Israel puerum suum,
recordatus misericordiae suae.
Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,
Abraham et semini ejus in saecula.
Gloria Patri et Filio et
Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in
saecula saeculorum. Amen.

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden:
for behold from henceforth all generations shall call
me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath done great things to me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him from
generation to generation.
He hath shewed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of his heart.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and
hath exalted the lowly.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He hath sustained Israel his servant,
remembering his mercy.
As he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
without end. Amen.