

Original pitch

Josquin Desprez

**Ave Maria ... Virgo serena**

S.A.T.B.

*ed. S. Biazeck*

*Quire* EDITIONS

## Editorial notes

Clefs: G<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>, C<sub>3</sub>, F<sub>4</sub>.

Cue-sized and cautionary accidentals are editorial.

Sources:

MS Capp. Sist. 42 (22v—24), c. 1503–12.

*Motetti a numero trentatre* (RISM 1502/1) Venice: Petrucci, Ottaviano, 1502 (Choirbook, Print) no. 2.

The primary text is from the Cappella Sistina MS and will be familiar to many who know this setting. Petrucci's variants, perhaps less familiar, are given as secondary text.

No attempt has been made to “correct” *mi contra fa*, so-called *diabolus in musica*; a consistent and integral stylistic component of the music of this period. In Josquin’s time, such adjustments would have required too much full-score knowledge for singers reading from single parts. They would surely have been guided by their training in solmization. For the same reason, the application of Diatonic *ficta* ought to be considered as impractical and ludicrous here as it is anywhere else.

## Translation:

*Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you, Virgin serene.  
Hail to you, whose conception,  
full of solemn joy,  
fills all things in both heaven  
and earth with new happiness.  
Hail to you whose birth  
was for us a festival,  
like the rising light of the morning  
star heralding the true sun.  
Hail blessed humility,  
who conceived without man’s aid,  
whose annunciation  
was our redemption.  
Hail true virginity,  
spotless chastity,  
whose purification  
was our cleansing.  
Hail to one admirable  
for all angelic virtues,  
whose assumption  
was our exaltation.  
O Mother of God, remember me.  
Amen.*

Simon Biazeck  
Rochester, U.K.  
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# Ave Maria ... Virgo serena

Edited by Simon Biazeck

Josquin Desprez  
(c. 1450–1521)

Superius

Altus

Tenor

Bassus

7

12

The musical score consists of five staves. The top four staves represent the vocal parts: Superius (soprano), Altus ( alto), Tenor, and Bassus (bass). The fifth staff represents the basso continuo. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The vocal parts sing in four-part harmony. The basso continuo part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and bassoon entries. The lyrics are written below the notes, corresponding to the vocal parts. Measure 7 begins with the soprano singing 'Ave' and the alto responding with 'Ma'. The basso continuo enters with 'ri'. Measure 12 continues with 'ave', 'Ma', and 'ri'. The lyrics then change to 'gra - ti - a ple -' followed by 'ri - a', 'A - ve', 'Ma - ri - a', 'na:', 'Do -', 'na:', 'gra - ti - a ple -', and finally 'gra - ti - a ple -'.

*Ave Maria ... Virgo serena*

Josquin

17

mi - nus te - - -

Do mi - nus te - - cum,

Do - - mi - nus

na:

22

- cum, | | | Vir - - | go se - | re - - |

te - - - - cum, | | | Vir - - -

Do - mi - nus te - - cum,

27

re - - na, se - re - na. A -

go se - re - - na. A -

Vir - - - - go se - re - na.

32

ve cu - ius con - ce pti o,  
ve cae - lo - rum Do mi na,

ve cu - ius con - ce pti o,  
ve cae - lo - rum Do mi na,

A - ve cu - ius con - ce -  
A - ve cae - lo - rum Do -

A - ve cu - ius con - ce -  
A - ve cae - lo - rum Do -

38

So - le - mni ple - na gau - di -  
Ma - ri - a, ple - na gra - ti -

- ce - pti - o, So - le - mni ple - na gau - di - o,  
rum Do - mi - na, Ma - ri - a, ple - na gra -

- pti - o, So - le - mni ple - na gau - di -  
mi - na, Ma - ri - a, ple - na gra - ti -

- pti - o, So - le - mni ple - na gau - di -  
mi - na, Ma - ri - a, ple - na gra - di -

44

o, Cae - le - sti - a, ter - re - stri - a, No -  
a, - - - - - - - - - - mun -

Cae - le - sti - a, ter - re - stri - a, ter - re - stri -  
- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

o, Cae - le - sti - a, ter - re - stri - a, No - va -  
a, - - - - - - - - - - mun - dum -

o, Cae - le - sti - a, ter - re - stri - a, No -  
a, - - - - - - - - - - - - a, No -

*Ave Maria ... Virgo serena*

Josquin

49

va re - plet lae - ti  
dum re plens

a, No - va re - plet lae - ti - ti - a,  
mun dum re plens

re - plet lae - ti - ti -  
re - plens

va re - plet lae - ti - ti -

53

- a.  
A - ve cu - ius na - ti - vi -

lae - ti - a.  
A - ve cu - ius na - ti -

- a.

- a.

58

tas, na - ti - vi - tas,

vi - tas,

No - stra fu - it so - le - mni -

No - stra fu - it so - le -

63

Ut lu - ci - fer lux o - ri -  
tas, so - le - mni - tas,  
Ut

68

ens,  
fer lux o - ri - ens, Ve - rum so - lem pra -  
lu - ci - fer lux o - ri - ens, Ve - rum so -  
Ut lu - ci - fer lux o - ri -

73

lem pra - ve - ni - ens.  
ens.  
lem pra - ve - ni - ens.  
ens, Ve - rum so - lem pra - ve - ni - ens.

78

A - ve pi - a hu - mi li - tas,  
A - ve pi - a hu - mi li - tas,  
Si - ne vi - ro foe - cun -  
Si - ne vi - ro foe - cun -

83

Cu - ius an - nun - ti - a ti - o,  
Cu - ius an - nun - ti - a ti - o,  
di - tas,  
di - tas,

88

No - stra fu - it re sal dem va pti - ti -  
No - stra fu - it re sal dem va pti - ti -

93

A - ve   ve - ra   vir - gi - ni - tas,  
A - ve   ve - ra   vir - gi - ni - tas,  
A - ve   ve - ra   vir - gi - ni - tas,  
A - ve   ve - ra   vir - gi - ni - tas,

98

Im - ma - cu - la - ta ca - sti - tas, Cu - ius pu -  
Im - ma - cu - la - ta ca - sti - tas, Cu - ius pu -  
Im - ma - cu - la - ta ca - sti - tas, Cu - ius  
Im - ma - cu - la - ta ca - sti - tas, Cu - ius pu -

103

rifi - ca - ti - o No - stra fu - it pur -  
rifi - ca - ti - o No - stra fu - it pur -  
pu - ri - fi - ca - ti - o No - stra fu - it pur -  
ri - fi - ca - ti - o No - stra fu - it pur -

108

ga - ti - o.

114

ra o - mni - bus

ra om ni - bus

A - ve prea - cla - ra o - mni -

A - ve prea - cla - ra o - mni -

119

An - - ge - li - cis

An - - ge - li - cis

bus

vir - tu - ti -

An - - ge - li -

An - - ge - li -

124

bus,  
 tu - ti - bus,  
 cis vir - tu - ti - bus,  
 cis vir - tu - - - - ti - bus,

129

it as - sum - pti - o  
 - it as - sum - - - -  
 Cu - ius fu - it as - sum - pti - o  
 Cu - ius fu - it as - sum - pti - o

134

stra glo - ri - fi - ca - ti - o.  
 No - stra glo - ri - fi - ca - ti - o, glo - - - - ri -  
 No - stra glo - - - - fi -  
 No - - stra glo -

139

O Ma - ter  
O Ma - ter  
ca - ti - o.  
O Ma - ter  
- ri - fi - ca - - - ti - - o. O Ma - ter

145

De - i, me - men - to me - i. A - men.  
De - i, me - men - to me - i. A - men.  
De - i, me - men - to me - i. A - men.  
De - i, me - men - to me - i. A - men.