

Stillness and Sweet Harmony

The Cambridge Singers *∞* City of London Sinfonia

directed by John Rutter



Collegium
RECORDS

The music heard on this album
has been selected from the following Collegium recordings
featuring the Cambridge Singers:

FAURE: SACRED MUSIC (COLCD 109)
Requiem; Messe Basse; Cantique de Jean Racine; Four motets

AVE VERUM CORPUS (CSCD 507)
Motets and anthems of William Byrd

FLORA GAVE ME FAIREST FLOWERS (CSCD 511)
Elizabethan madrigals

THE SPRIG OF THYME: TRADITIONAL SONGS (CSCD 517)

HAIL, GLADDENING LIGHT (COLCD 113)
Music of the English Church. 23 anthems and motets

HAIL! QUEEN OF HEAVEN (CSCD 508)
Music in honour of the Virgin Mary. 21 motets and anthems

Stillness and Sweet Harmony

The Cambridge Singers



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with the City of London Sinfonia

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Total playing time: 62' 45"

Note: Words credits are given at the end of each text.

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|---|---|-----------------------|
| 1 | Adoro te devote (2' 40")
Gregorian chant | previously unreleased |
| 2 | Pie Jesu (from <i>Requiem</i>) (3' 28")
Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)
Caroline Ashton (soprano) | from COLCD 109 |
| 3 | Visita, quaesumus Domine (4' 08")
William Byrd (1543–1623) | from CSCD 507 |
| 4 | Draw on, sweet night (4' 55")
John Wilbye (1574–1638) | from CSCD 511 |
| 5 | O can ye sew cushions (2' 43")
Scottish traditional lullaby (arr. Rutter) | from CSCD 517 |
| 6 | The silver swan (1' 45")
Orlando Gibbons (1583–1625) | from CSCD 511 |
| 7 | Down by the sally gardens (2' 43")
Irish traditional song (arr. Rutter) | from CSCD 517 |

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| 8 | In manus tuas (4' 02")
John Sheppard (c. 1515–1559/60) | from COLCD 113 |
| 9 | Miserere (14' 02")
Gregorio Allegri (1582–1652)
Soloists: Caroline Ashton (soprano 1), Karen Kerslake (soprano 2),
Patrick Craig (alto), Charles Pott (bass) | from COLCD 123 (nla) |
| 10 | Tantum ergo (2' 27")
Gabriel Fauré
Soloists: Ruth Holton, Nicola-Jane Kemp, Melanie Marshall
Organ: John Scott | from COLCD 109 |
| 11 | Justorum animae (2' 35")
William Byrd | from CSCD 507 |
| 12 | O quam suavis (4' 48")
William Byrd | from CSCD 507 |
| 13 | Laudi alla Vergine Maria (4' 55")
Giuseppe Verdi (1813–1901) | from CSCD 508 |
| 14 | Alma Redemptoris Mater (1' 50")
Gregorian chant | from CSCD 508 |
| 15 | What sweeter music (4' 18")
John Rutter | from CSCD 510 |

Tracks 5, 7, and 15 are published by Oxford University Press

Texts and translations

1 Adoro te devote (Gregorian hymn)

Adoro te devote, latens Deitas,
Quae sub his figuris vere latitas:
Tibi se cor meum totum subjicit
Quia te contemplans totum deficit.

Visus, tactus, gustus in te fallitur,
Sed auditu solo tuto creditur.
Credo quidquid dixit Dei Filius:
Nil hoc verbo veritatis verius.

O memoriale mortis Domini,
Panis vivus vitam praestans homini,
Praesta meae menti de te vivere,
Et te illi semper dulce sapere.

Pie pellicane Jesu Domine,
Me immundum munda tuo sanguine,
Cujus una stilla salvum facere
Totum mundum quit ab omni scelere.

Jesu, quem velatum nunc aspicio,
Oro fiat illud quod tam sitio:
Ut te revelata cernens facie,
Visu sim beatus tuae gloriae.

(*St Thomas Aquinas, 1225–74*)

*Thee we adore, O hidden Saviour, thee,
Who in thy Sacrament art pleased to be;
Both flesh and spirit in thy presence fail,
Yet here thy Presence we devoutly hail.*

*Sight, and taste, and feeling from us may depart,
Still we hear thy voice, inspiring ev'ry heart;
We believe whate'er the Son of God doth say:
Words of truth divine to guide us on our way.*

*O blest Memorial of our dying Lord,
Who living bread to men doth here afford!
O may our souls for ever feed on thee,
And thou, O Christ, for ever precious be.*

*Fountain of goodness, Jesu, Lord and God,
Cleanse us, unclean, with thy most cleansing Blood;
Increase our faith and love, that we may know
The hope and peace which from thy Presence flow.*

*O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,
May what we thirst for soon our portion be,
To gaze on thee unveiled, and see thy face,
The vision of thy glory and thy grace.*

(*translation by Bishop J. R. Woodford*)

2 Pie Jesu (Gabriel Fauré)

Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem.
Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis sempiternam requiem.

(*from Missa pro defunctis*)

(*Blessed Jesu, Lord, I pray in thy mercy grant them rest.
Blessed Jesu, Lord, I pray in thy mercy grant them everlasting rest.*)

3 Visita, quaesumus Domine (William Byrd)

Visita, quaesumus Domine, habitationem istam, et omnes insidias inimici ab ea longe repelle:
Angeli tui sancti habitent in ea, qui nos in pace custodiant; et benedictio tua sit super nos
semper.

Per Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.

(*Benediction at Compline*)

(*Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this dwelling, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy.
Let thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace, and may thy blessing be upon us evermore;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*)

4 Draw on, sweet night (John Wilbye)

Draw on, sweet Night, best friend unto those cares
That do arise from painful melancholy.
My life so ill through want of comfort fares,
That unto thee I consecrate it wholly.
Sweet Night, draw on! My griefs when they be told
To shades and darkness, find some ease from paining.
And while thou all in silence dost enfold,
I then shall have best time for my complaining.

(*Text of unknown authorship*)

5 **O can ye sew cushions?** (Scottish lullaby)

O can ye sew cushions,
Or can ye sew sheets,
Or can ye sing balaloo
When the bairn greets?
And hee and baw birdie,
And hee and baw lamb,
And hee and baw birdie,
My bonnie wee lamb.

I placed my cradle
On yon holly top,
And ay as the wind blew
My cradle did rock.
And hush a baw birdie,
And balilee loo,
And hee and baw birdie,
My bonny wee doo.

6 **The silver swan** (Orlando Gibbons)

The silver swan, who living had no note
When death approached unlocked her silent throat;
Leaning her breast against the reedy shore,
Thus sung her first and last, and sung no more:
Farewell, all joys; O death, come close mine eyes;
More geese than swans now live, more fools than wise.

(Words of unknown authorship)

7 **Down by the sally gardens** (Irish traditional song)

Down by the sally gardens my love and I did meet.
She passed the sally gardens with little snow-white feet.
She bid me take love easy,
As the leaves grow on the tree.
But I being young and foolish,
With her did not agree.

In a field by the river my love and I did stand.
And on my leaning shoulder she placed her snow-white hand.
She bid me take life easy,
As the grass grows on the weirs.
But I was young and foolish,
And now am full of tears.

(W.B. Yeats, 1865–1939)

8 **In manus tuas** (John Sheppard)

In manus tuas Domine, commendo spiritum meum. Redemisti me, Domine, Deus veritatis.
(Respond from the Office of Compline)

(Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. Thou hast redeemed me, O God of truth.)

9 **Miserere** (Gregorio Allegri)

Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam.
Et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum: dele iniquitatem meam.
Amplius lava me ab iniquitate mea, et a peccato meo munda me.
Quoniam iniquitatem meam ego cognosco: et peccatum meum contra me est semper.
Tibi soli peccavi, et malum coram te feci: ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis, et vincas cum
judicaris.

Ecce enim veritatem dilexisti: incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manifestasti mihi.
Asperges me hyssopo et mundabor: lavabis me et super nivem dealabor.
Auditui meo dabis gaudium et laetitiam: et exultabunt ossa humiliata.
Averte faciem tuam a peccatis meis: et omnes iniquitates meas dele.
Cor mundum crea in me, Deus: et spiritum rectum innova in visceribus meis.
Ne projicias me a facie tua: et spiritum sanctum tuum ne auferas a me.
Redde mihi laetitiam salutaris tui: et spiritu principali confirma me.
Docebo iniquos vias tuas: et impii ad te convertentur.
Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus salutis meae: et exsultabit lingua mea justitiam tuam.
Domine labia mea aperies: et os meum annuntiabit laudem tuam.
Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium, dedissem utique: holocaustis non delectaberis.
Sacrificium Deo spiritus contribulatus: cor contritum et humiliatum Deus non despicies.
Benigne fac Domine in bona voluntate tua Sion: ut aedificentur muri Jerusalem.
Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae, oblationes et holocausta: tunc imponent super altare
tuum vitulos.

(Psalm 51)

*(Have mercy upon me, O God, after thy great goodness:
according to the multitude of thy mercies do away mine offences.
Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin.
For I acknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me.
Against thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified in thy
saying, and clear when thou art judged.
Behold, I was shapen in wickedness, and in sin hath my mother conceived me.
But lo, thou requirest truth in the inward parts: and shalt make me to understand wisdom
secretly.
Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter
than snow.
Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness: that the bones which thou hast broken may
rejoice.
Turn thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds.
Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Cast me not away from thy presence: and take not thy holy Spirit from me.
O give me the comfort of thy help again: and stablish me with thy free Spirit.
Then shall I teach thy ways unto the wicked: and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, thou that art the God of my health: and my tongue shall
sing of thy righteousness.
Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew thy praise.
For thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it thee: but thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise.
O be favourable and gracious unto Sion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.
Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and
oblations: then shall they offer young bullocks upon thine altar.)*

10 Tantum ergo (Gabriel Fauré)

Tantum ergo Sacramentum
Veneremur cernui,
Et antiquum documentum
Novo cedat ritui.
Genitori, Genitroque
Laus et jubilatio,
Salus, honor, virtus quoque
Sit et benedictio;
Procedenti ab utroque
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.

(St Thomas Aquinas, 1225–74)

*Therefore we, before him bending,
This great Sacrament revere;
Types and shadows have their ending,
For the newer rite is here.
Glory let us give, and blessing
To the Father and the Son;
Honour, might and praise addressing
While eternal ages run;
Ever too his love confessing,
Who from both, with both is one. Amen.*

11 Justorum animae (William Byrd)

Justorum animae in manu Dei sunt, et non tanget illos tormentum mortis. Visi sunt oculi insipientium mori: Illi autem sunt in pace.

(Offertory for All Saints' Day)

(The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and there shall no torment touch them. In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die: but they are in peace.)

[12] O quam suavis (William Byrd)

O quam suavis est, Domine, Spiritus tuus, qui, ut dulcedinem tuam in filios demonstrares, pane suavissimo de coelo praestito, esurientes reples bonis, fastidiosos divites dimittens inanes.

(Magnificat Antiphon for First Vespers, Feast of Corpus Christi)

(O how sweet, Lord, is thy Holy Spirit: thou who, to show thy loving kindness unto thy children, sent sweetest bread from heaven, filling the hungry with good things but sending the rich empty away.)

[13] Laudi alla Vergine Maria (Giuseppe Verdi)

Vergine madre, figlia del tuo Figlio,
umile ed alta più che creatura,
termine fisso d'eterno consiglio,
tu se' colei che l'umana natura
nobilitasti sì, che 'l suo Fattore
non disdegnò di farsi sua fattura.
Nel ventre tuo si raccese l'amore,
per lo cui caldo nell'eterna pace
così è germinato questo fiore.
Qui se' a noi meridiana face
di caritate, e giuso, intra i mortali,
se' di speranza fontana vivace.
Donna se' tanto grande e tanto vali,
che qual vuol grazia, ed a te non ricorre,
sua disianza vuol volar senz' ali.
La tua benignità non pur soccorre
a chi dimanda, ma molte fiate

liberamente al dimandar precorre.
In te misericordia, in te pietate,
in te magnificenza, in te s'aduna
quantunque in creatura è di bontate. Ave.

(Dante Alighieri, 1265–1321)

(Virgin mother, daughter of your Son, humble and exalted above all beings, constant vessel of eternal counsel.

You are she who so ennobled human nature, through whom His Creator did not disdain the incarnation.

In your womb was love rekindled, from whose warmth, in eternal peace, this flower did germinate.

You are to us the brightest torch of charity, and amongst mortals a bubbling fountain of hope.

Lady, your greatness and worth are such, that to seek for grace without coming to you would be like trying to fly without wings.

Your graciousness not only succours those in need, but also frequently freely anticipates our desires.

In you there is mercy, pity and magnificence, reunited in you in flesh and in spirit. Hail.)

(translation by Paul Gordon)

[14] Alma Redemptoris Mater (Gregorian chant)

Alma Redemptoris Mater, quae pervia caeli porta manes et stella maris, succurre cadenti surgere qui curat populo: Tu quae genuisti, natura mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem: Virgo prius et posterius Gabriellis ab ore sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.

(Antiphon of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

(Kind Mother of the Redeemer, our open gateway to heaven and star of the sea, help your people and keep them from falling: you who gave birth to your holy Son, all creation marvelling: ever Virgin Mother, first hailed from the lips of Gabriel, have mercy on us sinners.)

15 **What sweeter music** (John Rutter)

What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night, fly hence away.
And give the honour to this day,
That sees December turned to May.

Why does the chilling winter's morn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn.
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis he is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and lustre, public mirth,
To heaven, and the under-earth.

We see him come, and know him ours
Who, with his sunshine and his showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.
The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome him. The nobler part
Of all the house here, is the heart.

Which we will give him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King,
And Lord of all this revelling.
What sweeter music can we bring,
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
(Robert Herrick, 1591–1674)

Recording produced by Jillian White
(Tracks 4 and 6 produced by Tony Faulkner and John Rutter)

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