

PASSIONTIDE: HOLY WEEK IN THE COURTS OF EUROPE 1600-1745



JOE WAGGOTT CHRIS FITZGERALD-LOMBARD

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JOE WAGGOTT

Joe Waggott was awarded a scholarship in 2008 to study Organ at Birmingham Conservatoire under Henry Fairs, and has since held organ scholarships at St Thomas, Stourbridge and at St Mary Magdalene, Tanworth-In-Arden. Performing widely as a soloist and orchestral organist, Joe's recent appearances include with the Birmingham Festival Orchestra in Poulenc's Organ Concerto and Asklepios Orchestra; Handel's Organ Concerto No.4 (Op.4). Recent European masterclasses include with organists Jacques van Oortmessern, Bine Bryndorf, David Sanger and Daniel Moult.

Joe is most often in demand as a continuo player, accompanying chamber groups and solo instrumentalists. He studied harpsichord and chamber organ with Douglas Hollick, and has been awarded the Conservatoire Corton-Hyde Early Music Scholarship, and co-awarded as continuo player the Early Music Prize.

As a choral conductor, Joe studied with Paul Spicer, as a singer with Matthew Venner of St. Paul's Cathedral, in improvisation studies with Ronny Krippner, and as a countertenor Choral Scholar at Birmingham Cathedral. Joe is a regular singer in the Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir under Paul Spicer & Jeffery Skidmore, the Curlew Ensemble and Concordia Scholars. Recently, he has appeared on a new disc with Portsmouth Cathedral Choir directed by Malcolm Archer.



CHRIS FITZGERALD-LOMBARD

Chris was born in Norwich and attended The Norwich School from the age of seven. Chris began his life as a singer in the school Chapel choir with whom he sang for many years, firstly as a treble, and later as a tenor. Chris is currently in his third year at Birmingham Conservatoire, studying under Julian Pike and Andrew King and has also studied with Andrew Carwood and Matthew Venner of St. Paul's Cathedral.

As well as working with the Apollo Baroque Consort Chris is in demand as both a freelance soloist and a choral singer. He currently sings at Birmingham Cathedral as a tenor choral scholar, under the direction of Marcus Huxley.

Recently he has appeared with the Armonico Consort, the Convivium Singers, the Chapter 5 vocal ensemble, the Hogan Ensemble and under the direction of Ex Cathedra conductor, Jeffrey Skidmore and Paul Spicer (Birmingham Bach Choir and the Finzi Singers) with the Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir.

MICHEL RICHARD DE LALANDE

MICHEL RICHARD DE LALANDE (born 15th December, 1657) composed much of the crowning repertoire of the French Baroque era. A harpsichordist, singer, organist, and violinist (though, when refused a place in Lully's orchestra, he vowed never to play the violin again), husband to Anne Rebel (1684) and father to two daughters, Lalande spent much of his life with family at the court of King Louis XIV.

Initially appointed as one of four composers at court, Lalande rose in precedence to become sole composer at court in 1709 as a favourite of Louis (the year following the death of Lalande's daughters in 1711, Louis gave a personal royal memorial in their name).

His exquisite Grand Motets were hand-copied at Louis' instruction for use in the grand chapel at Versailles, and it is these works for which Lalande is particularly known; 'De Profundis' is particularly well known and admired. That their regular performance vastly outlived Lalande owes to the thorough and costly production of an edition (unheard of for late composers of the era) in

1729. Upon Louis XIV's death in 1715, Lalande bequeathed many of his court duties to his students, taking a salary reduction and the reinstatement of the full complement of four composers to the chapel. He remarried, following the death of his wife in 1722, raising another daughter the following year. Three years later, in 1726, Lalande—suffering from a bout of pneumonia—died, leaving some of the finest choral and orchestral music ever written. The work on this disc ('Miserere à voix seule) come from beautiful but lesser known Petits Motets, possibly the finest examples of this style.

THE PRECISE COMPOSITION

date of the Miserere à Voix Seule is not known. In Philidor's Catalogue of 1729 he writes that it was "sung by Les Mesdemoiselles DeLalande to the admiration of all Paris;" suggesting that the work must have existed in some form by 1711, when both daughters died. Like much of Lalande's output it was revised several times after the initial composition; a version dating from circa 1714 includes plainsong harmonisations by S. de Brossard, which are used in this recording. The score contains certain passages marked "pour l'orgue"; some suggestion that these may be the remnants of an *obbligato* violin part, though no such part has ever been found. The number of copies made of *Miserere* testify to its popularity, with performances continuing until 1770, a half-century after Lalande's death.

Much of Lalande's work is influenced by the Italian school and the Miserere is no exception. The work takes psalm 51 as its text and sets verses alternately between solo voice and plainsong chorus. The manuscript itself is covered with ornamentation, carefully notated to bring life to the text. The long flowing melismas of 'Asperges Me' contrast beautifully with the moving simplicity of 'Cor Mundum'. The petit motet setting shares some music with the grand motet and this is certainly to its credit. Of the wealth of French Baroque music. this is surely some of the finest writing.

MISERERE À VOIX SEULE











MISERERE A VOIX SEULE

Miserere mei, Deus: secundum magnam misericordiam tuam. Have mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness

Et secundum multitudinem miserationum tuarum, dele iniquitatem meam. According to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences.

Amplius lava me ab iniquitate mea: et a peccato meo munda me. Wash me throughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin.

Quoniam iniquitatem meam ego cognosco: et peccatum meum contra me est semper. For Lacknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me.

Tibi soli peccavi, et malum coram te feci: ut justificeris in sermonibus tuis, et vincas cum judicaris. 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.

Ecce enim in iniquitatibus conceptus sum: et in peccatis concepit me mater mea. Behold, I was shapen in wickedness: and in sin hath my mother conceived me.

Ecce enim veritatem dilexisti: incerta et occulta sapientiae tuae manifestasti mihi. But lo, Thou requirest truth in the inward parts: and shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly.

Asperges me hysopo, et mundabor: lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor. Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Auditui meo dabis gaudium et laetitiam: et exsultabunt ossa humiliata. Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness: that the bones which Thou hast broken may repore.

Averte faciem tuam a peccatis meis: et omnes iniquitates meas dele. Turn Thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds. Cor mundum crea in me, Deus: et spiritum rectum innova in visceribus meis. Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me.

Ne proiicias me a facie tua: et spiritum sanctum tuum ne auferas a me. Cast me not away from Thy presence: and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Redde mihi laetitiam salutaris tui: et spiritu principali confirma me. O give me the comfort of Thy help again: and stablish me with Thy free Spirit.

Docebo iniquos vias tuas: et impii ad te convertentur. Then shall I teach Thy ways unto the wicked: and sinners shall be converted unto Thee.

Libera me de sanguinibus, Deus, Deus salutis meae: et exsultabit lingua mea justitiam tuam. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou that art the God of my health: and my tongue shall sing of Thy righteousness.

Domine, labia mea aperies: et os meum annuntiabit laudem tuam. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shall shew Thy praise.

Quoniam si voluisses sacrificium, dedissem utique: holocaustis non delectaberis. For Thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it Thee: but Thou delightest not in burnt-offerings.

Sacrificium Deo spiritus contribulatus: cor contritum, et humiliatum, Deus, non despicies. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt Thou not despise.

Benigne fac, Domine, in bona voluntate tua Sion: ut aedificentur muri Ierusalem. 0 be favourable and gracious unto Sion: build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.

Tunc acceptabis sacrificium justitiae, oblationes, et holocausta: tunc imponent super altare tuum vitulos. Then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the burnt-offerings and oblations: then shall they offer young calves upon Thine altar.



Giovanni de Sances (born c.1600) is a composer about whom, sadly, very little is known. He was an Italian tenor and composer. He was born in Rome in about 1600 and studied in Bologna and Venice. Having moved to Vienna in 1636, where he was employed as a singer in the Imperial Court Chapel, he was appointed vice-Kapellmeister in 1649. He used this post to stage many of his operas. Today six of these are known, though three have been lost. Sances also wrote a wealth of sacred music including sixty masses, cantatas and other motets. including the Stabat Mater on this CD. In 1689 he became the Imperial Kapellmeister though was only able to carry out his responsibilities until 1673 when he became ill. He died in Vienna in 1679.

PIANTO DELLA MADONNA

The beauty of the Stabat Mater is in its simplicity. Recitative sections give a framework around the constantly repeating ground bass (lasting only two bars) over which the voice part sings. The vocal writing, highly decorative and elaborate, is reminiscent more of a violin part and requires great skill to perform. Some modern performers do. in fact, include a violin part though here it is kept as bare as possible, using just organ accompaniment, to remain faithful to the text. The text is a 13th century Catholic hymn to Mary, mother of Jesus depicting the agony she felt at her son's crucifixion. Sances' choice of text is strange, as the poem was suppressed as a liturgical text by the Council of Trent in the 16th century. Nonetheless, it remains one of his best known pieces and is an example of word painting of the highest quality.

Stabat mater dolorosa At the Cross her station iuxta Crucem lacrimosa. dum pendebat Filius. Cuius animam gementem, contristatam et dolentem pertransivit gladius. O quam tristis et afflicta fuit illa benedicta. mater Unigeniti! Quae moerebat et dolebat. pia Mater, dum videbat nati poenas inclyti. Quis est homo aui non fleret. matrem Christi și videret in tanto supplicio? Ouis non posset contristari Christi Matrem contemplari dolentem cum Filio? Pro peccatis suae gentis vidit Iesum in tormentis. et flagellis subditum. Vidit suum dulcem Natum moriendo desolatum dum emisit spiritum. Eia. Mater. fons amoris me sentire vim doloris fac, ut tecum lugeam. Fac. ut ardeat cor meum in amando Christum Deum ut sibi and melt with the love of Christ my Lord. complaceam.

keeping, stood the mournful Mother weeping, close to her Son to the last. Through her heart. His sorrow sharing, all His bitter anguish bearing, now at length the sword has passed. 0 how sad and sore distressed was that Mother. highly blest, of the solebegotten One. Christ above in torment hangs, she beneath beholds the pangs of her dying glorious Son. Is there one who would not weep, whelmed in miseries so deep. Christ's dear Mother to behold? Can the human heart refrain from partaking in her pain, in that Mother's pain untold? For the sins of His own nation. She saw lesus wracked with torment, All with scourges rent: She beheld her tender Child. Saw Him hang in desolation. Till His spirit forth He sent. O thou Mother! fount of love! Touch my spirit from above. make my heart with thine accord: Make me feel as thou hast felt; make my soul to glow

Sancta Mater, istud agas, Holy Mother! pierce me through, in my heart each crucifixi fige plagas cordi meo valide. wound renew of my Savior crucified: Tui Nati vulnerati. tam dignati pro me pati. Let me share with thee His poenas mecum divide. pain, who for all my sins was slain, who for me in Fac me tecum pie flere, torments died. crucifixo condolere. donec ego vixero. Let me mingle tears with thee, mourning Him who Juxta Crucem tecum mourned for me. all the days stare. that I may live: et me tibi sociare in planctu desidero. By the Cross with thee to stay. there with thee to weep and Virao virainum pray, is all I ask of thee to give. praeclara. mihi iam non sis amara. Virgin of all virgins blest!. fac me tecum plangere. Listen to my fond request: let me share thy grief divine; Fac, ut portem Christi Let me, to my latest breath. mortem, passionis fac consortem. in my body bear the death of et plagas recolere. that dying Son of thine. Fac me plagis vulnerari. Wounded with His every fac me Cruce inebriari. wound, steep my soul till it et cruore Filii. hath swooned, in His very Blood awav: Flammis ne urar Be to me, O Virgin, nigh, lest succensus. per te, Virgo, sim in flames I burn and die, in defensus His awful ludgment Day. in die iudicii. Christ, when Thou shalt call Christe. cum sit hinc me hence, by Thy Mother exire. my defense, by Thy Cross da per Matrem me venire my victory; ad palmam victoriae. While my body here decays. Quando corpus morietur. may my soul Thy goodness fac. ut animae donetur praise. Safe in Paradise with Thee. paradisi gloria. Amen.

LAMENTATIONS 2:8-11

2.8 HETH.

The Lord hath purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Sion: he hath stretched out his line, and hath not withdrawn his hand from destroying: and the bulwark hath mourned, and the wall hath been destroyed together.

2.9 TETH.

Her gates are sunk into the ground: he hath destroyed, and broken her bars: her king and her princes are among the Gentiles: the law is no more, and her prophets have found no vision from the Lord.

2.10 JOD.

The ancients of the daughter of Sion sit upon the ground, they have held their peace: they have sprinkled their heads with dust, they are girded with haircloth, the virgins of Jerusalem hang down their heads to the ground.

2.11 CAPH.

My eyes have failed with weeping, my bowels are troubled: my liver is poured out upon the earth, for the destruction of the daughter of my people, when the children, and the sucklings, fainted away in the streets of the city.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return to the Lord your God

2.8 HETH.

Cogitavit Dominus dissipare murum filiae Sion; tetendit funiculum suum, non avertit manum suam a perditione; luxique antemurale et murus pariter dissipartus est.

2.9 TETH.

Defixae sunt in terra portae eius; perdidit et contrivit vectes eius. Regem eius et principes eius in gentibus; non est lex, et prophetae eius non invenerunt visionem a Domino.

2.10 JOD.

derunt in terra, contrcuerunt senes filiae Sion, consperserunt cinere capita sua, accincti sunt ciliciis; abiecerunt in terram capita sua virgines Ierusalem.

2.11 CAPH.

Defecerunt prae lacrimis oculi mei, conturbata sunt viscera mea; effusum est in terra iecur meum super contritione filiae populi mei, cum deficeret parvulus et lactens in plateis oppidi.

erusalem, Ierusalem, convertere ad Dominum Deum tuum

JAN DISMAS ZELENKA

of his grave is left, but there is now a small plaque in the graveyard to commemorate his life. Perhaps the greatest tribute to the largely forgotten Zelenka, however, is a letter from C.P.E Bach to Forkel in 1775. In it, he states that his father, J.S. Bach, had held the music of Zelenka in the very highest esteem.

LAMENTATIONS I: FOR GOOD FRIDAY

The Lamentations recorded on this disc are part of a set of six settings of the Lamentations of leremiah - two lessons each from Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve. Confusion has sometimes arisen because these lessons were from services celebrated as Tenebrae services the evening before each day. Zelenka titled each set for "Wednesday", "Thursday" and "Friday" respectively. Most editors have now, however, re-aligned the titles to their appropriate days. This particular setting shows clearly the Italian influences on Zelenka, from his time spent studying with Fux (and possibly also with Lotti) in Venice: The arioso style of the Hebrew letters allows the composer to develop the music in his own way, while the actual text of the lesson is delivered in traditional, secco recitiative. Zelenka, here. breaks with convention, and extends and elaborates the final "Ierusalem, convertere!" to create a much stronger, more emotional call to repentance.

is a composer about whose music very little has come to light. The Royal Court at Dresden where he worked seemed to have, very carefully, guarded his compositions. Until recently the only music known by him was one of a select number of pieces he gave away during his lifetime, and even some of those are no longer believed to have been composed by him. Zelenka was educated at the Jesuit College in Prague and, so, remained a Catholic despite the prevalence of Lutheranism in Germany at that time. In 1697 the King-Elector Augustus the Strong of Saxony (Dresden was the capital city of Saxony) took the Polish crown. This required him to take the Roman Catholic faith. despite governing a predominantly Lutheran state. For Zelenka, the two religious faces of the Court could not have been more convenient. In 1735 he became the Court Composer of Church Music at the Royal Court, in recognition of the sacred music he composed for the Catholic Church. The deeply Lutheran J.S. Bach, on the other hand, was given the title of Royal Court Composer. It is the Catholic nature of Zelenka's compositions which may help to explain, also, why his music was largely forgotten. Zelenka's life was, largely, very uneventful. Apart from a several commissions and his travels to Prague (when, in 1723, he was commissioned to compose for the coronation of Emperor Charles VI) and to Italy (to Venice, to study with Fux) very little of note ever happened to him. He was never married and had no children. He died in Dresden on 23rd December 1745, and was buried in the Catholic cemetery. No trace

lan Dismas Zelenka (born 16th October, 1679)

TO THE MEMORY OF JUNE AND ROY WAGGOTT

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