



*Williams College
Department of Music*



Sounds of Salvation

Music for a 15th-Century Bruges Merchant



This concert is made
possible by the
W. Ford Schumann '50
Performing Arts
Endowment.



Cappella Pratensis

Saturday, October 25, 8 PM
Thompson Memorial Chapel

Sounds of Salvation: Music for a 15th-Century Bruges Merchant

Part I:

The Story of the Mass for St. Donatian

Gefft den armen gefangen umb Got

“Give to the poor prisoners for God’s sake,
that God may help you out of all misery.”

Dutch Devotional Song

Presentation by M. Jennifer Bloxam with demonstration by Cappella Pratensis

O beate pater Donatiane

“O blessed father Donatian,
pray to the loving Lord Jesus
for forgiveness for our sins.”

Plainsong Antiphon for the Feast of St Donatian

* * * *Intermission* * * *

Part II:

The Mass for St. Donatian

Introitus: *Statui ei Dominus*

Plainsong for the Feast of a Confessor Bishop

Kyrie from the *Missa de Sancto Donatiano*

Kyrie I
Christe
Kyrie II

Jacob Obrecht (1457/58-1505)

Gloria from the *Missa de Sancto Donatiano*

Et in terra
Qui tollis

Obrecht

Graduale: *Domine prevenisti eum*

Plainsong for the Feast of a Confessor Bishop

Alleluia: *Iuravit Dominus*

Plainsong for the Feast of a Confessor Bishop

Credo from the *Missa de Sancto Donatiano*

Patrem
Et incarnatus (a 2)
Et resurrexit
Et unam sanctam

Obrecht

Offertorium: *Veritas mea*

Plainsong for the Feast of a Confessor Bishop

Sanctus from the *Missa de Sancto Donatiano*

Sanctus
Pleni (a 3)
Osanna I
Benedictus (a 2)
Osanna II (= Osanna I)

Obrecht

Agnus Dei from the *Missa de Sancto Donatiano*

Agnus Dei I
Agnus Dei II (a 2)
Agnus Dei III

Obrecht

Communio: *Beatus servus*

Plainsong for the Feast of a Confessor Bishop

Ite missa est

Fauxbourdon on Plainsong for Dismissal of Mass

Sponsored by the W. Ford Schumann '50 Performing Arts Endowment

Please turn off or mute cell phones. No photography or recording is permitted.

Cappella Pratensis

Superius: Stratton Bull (project leader), Julien Freymuth

Altus: Christopher Kale, Lior Leibovici

Tenor: Arnout Lems, Hugo Oliveira

Bassus: Lionel Meunier, Geoffroy Buffière

Project collaborator: M. Jennifer Bloxam, Williams College

Sources:

The plainsongs are sung from folios reproduced from a late 15th-century Gradual of the Church of St. Donatian in Bruges (Bruges, Grootseminarie, MSS D7 and D8)

Obrecht's *Missa de Sancto Donatiano* is performed from a reproduction of a Choirbook made for the All Saints Church in Wittenberg between 1500 and 1520 (Jena, Universitätsbibliothek, MS 32)

Program Notes

Tonight's concert is focused on a Mass by the Flemish composer Jacob Obrecht (1457/58-1505), a contemporary of Josquin who worked for some years in the city of Bruges. Thanks to a discovery by Reinhard Strohm, we know that Obrecht was commissioned by Adriane de Moor, widow of the wealthy furrier Donaes de Moor, to compose a commemorative Mass for her husband. This work, the *Missa de Sancto Donatiano*, was first performed on October 14, 1487 (the feast day of St. Donatian, the name saint of Donaes de Moor and patron saint of Bruges) in the church of St James in Bruges.

This is an extraordinary work for two reasons. First, it weaves into the Mass an array of plainsong *cantus firmi* and a Dutch song to create an elaborate and sonically stunning commentary on death and redemption. Second, we have been able to reconstruct the vivid details of its original performance in a way never before possible for music of this era. Musicologist Jennifer Bloxam has recovered the ritual texts and plainchant sung on the feast of St. Donatian within which Obrecht's polyphony can now be resituated. In short, the ritual environment of this music has been recaptured, illuminating the beauty and power of 15th-century sacred polyphony in fresh ways.

This program forms part of a larger project devoted to the exploration of this Mass in its historical context. In the Fall of 2008, Cappella Pratensis will release a CD+DVD on the Challenge Classics label that features a filmed recreation of the Mass as it was first sung in October 1487 as well as commentary about the music and its context, all filmed on location in Bruges. In conjunction with this, Prof. Bloxam will launch a website devoted to Obrecht's *Missa de Sancto Donatiano* that will include film clips of the reenactment, an animated and annotated musical score, and content pages about the rich historical context from which this piece emerged.

Texts and translations

Introitus (Eccl. 45:30, Ps. 131:1)

Statuit ei Dominus testamentum pacis,
et principem fecit eum: ut sit illi sacerdotii
dignitas in aeternum

The Lord established a covenant of peace with him,
and made him the chief of the sanctuary, that
the honor of the priesthood should be his forever.

Memento domine David et omnis mansuetudinis eius.
Gloria Patri et Filio
et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio
et nunc et semper
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Lord, remember David and all his gentleness.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and every shall be,
world without end. Amen

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison
Christe eleison
Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

(Cantus firmus)

O beate pater Donatiane,
pium Dominum Iesum pro impietatibus nostris deposce.

O blessed father Donatian,
pray to the loving Lord Jesus for forgiveness for our sins.

(2nd Cantus firmus in Kyrie II)

Gefft den armen gefangen umb got dat u got helpe
mari ut aller not.

Give to the poor prisoners for God's sake, that
God may help you out of all your misery.

Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax hominibus
bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi,
propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens,
Domine, Fili Unigenite Jesu Christe;
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.

Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis;
qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

(Cantus firmus)

Confessor Donatianus
ab utero in sinu matris
Ecclesie exceptus.
Divine legis precordialiter
extitit emulus.

Cumque sacre infantie
inspiraret Christus sitire
fontem sancti spiritus.
Divine legis precordialiter
extitit emulus.

Graduale (Ps 20:4-5)

Domine prevenisti eum in benedictionibus
dulcedinis:
posuisti in capite eius coronam de lapide pretioso.

Vitam petiit, et tribuisti ei longitudinem dierum in
seculum seculi.

Alleluia (Ps 109:4)

Alleluia.
Iuravit Dominus et non penitebit eum:
Tu es sacerdos in aeternum, secundum ordinem
Melchisedech

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace to men
of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you
for your great glory.
Lord, God, heavenly king,
God the father almighty,
Lord, the only begotten son, Jesus Christ,
Lord God, Lamb of God, son of the father.

You who take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
You who take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
You who sit at the right hand of the father
have mercy on us.
For you alone are holy,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Confessor of the Lord, Donatian, was taken from
the womb to the breast of our Holy Mother
Church.
Divine Law he followed diligently
in his heart.

And when in his holy infancy
Christ inspired him to thirst
for the waters of the Holy Spirit.
Divine Law he followed diligently
in his heart.

Lord, you granted him his unspoken heart's desire
with the blessings of sweetness: you shall set on
his head a crown of precious stone.

He asked life of you, and you gave him a long
life: even forever and ever.

Alleluia.
The Lord sware, and will not repent:
you art a priest forever after the order of
Melchisedech.

Credo

Credo in unum Deum,
Patrem omnipotentem,
factorem caeli et terrae,
visibilium omnium, et invisibilium.
Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum
Filium Dei unigenitum
et ex Patre natum ante omnia saecula;
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
Deum verum de Deo vero,
genitum, non factum;
consubstantialem Patri:
per quem omnia facta sunt.
Qui propter nos homines,
et propter nostram salutem,
descendit de caelis.

Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto
ex Maria virgine:
et homo factus est.
Crucifixus etiam pro nobis,
sub Pontio Pilato,
passus et sepultus est:

Et resurrexit tertia die
secundum scripturas,
et ascendit in caelum,
sedet ad dexteram Patris,
Et in Spiritum Sanctum Dominum
et vivificantem,
qui ex Patre Filioque procedit.

Et in unam, sanctam, catholicam,
et apostolicam ecclesiam.
Confiteor unum baptisma
in remissionem peccatorum.
Et exspecto resurrectionem mortuorum,
et vitam venturi saeculi.
Amen.

(Cantus firmus)

O sanctissime praesul Christi, Donatiane,
angelorum choris asscripte, et electorum Dei
gaudiis addicte.

Defende nos continua intercessione et ab hostili
animarum et corporum impugnatione.

Exaudi preces coram te fusas et suscipe vota ad te
suspirantium.

(2nd cantus firmus from “Et resurrexit” to
“Filioque procedit”)

O clavis David et sceptrum domus Israel, qui
aperis et nemo claudit,
claudis et nemo aperit:
veni et educ vinctum de domo carceris sedentem
in tenebris et umbra mortis

Offertorium (Ps. 88:25)

Veritas mea et misericordia mea cum ipso: et in
nomine meo exaltabitur cornu eius.

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
only begotten son of God
born of the Father before all ages;
God of God, light of light,
true God of true God
begotten, not made;
being of one substance with the Father:
through whom all things were made.
Who for us men
and for our salvation
came down from heaven.

And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
from the Mary the Virgin of the Virgin Mary:
and was made man.
He was crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered and was buried:

And the third day he rose again
according to the scriptures,
and ascended to heaven,
and sits at the right hand of the Father,
And in the Lord, the Holy Spirit,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

And in one holy, Catholic
and apostolic church.
I acknowledge one baptism
for the remission of sins.
And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the
life of the world to come.
Amen.

O most holy priest of Christ, Donatian, enrolled in
the choruses of angels, and of the chosen ones of
God a participant in their joys.

Defend us by your continual intercession from the
hostile onslaughts of both souls and bodies.

Graciously hear our prayers poured out before you
and champion the wishes of those who sigh to you.

O key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel,
you who open and none can close,
you who close and none can open:
come and lead the captive from his prison where
he sits in darkness and the shadow of death.

My truth and my mercy shall be with him: and in
my name shall his horn be exalted.

Preface

Dominus vobiscum.
Et cum spiritu tuo.
Sursum corda.
Habemus ad Dominum.
Gratias agamus Domino Deo nostro.
Dignum et iustum est.

Vere dignum et iustum est equum et salutare, nos tibi semper et ubique gratias agere, Domine sancte pater omnipotens eterne Deus, per Christum Dominum nostrum, per quem maiestatem tuam laudant angeli adorant dominationes tremunt potestates, celi celorumque virtutes ac beata seraphim socia exultatione concelebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces ut admitti iubeas deprecamur supplici confessione dicentes.

Sanctus

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua:
Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini:
Hosanna in excelsis.

(cantus firmus)

O beate pater Donatiane, pium Dominum Iesum
pro impietatibus nostris deposce.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

(cantus firmus)

O beate pater Donatiane, pium Dominum Iesum
pro impietatibus nostris deposce.

Communio (Matt. 24:46-47)

Beatus servus, quem, cum venerit Dominus,
invenerit vigilantem: amen dico vobis, super
omnia bona sua constituet eum.

Dismissal

Ite missa est.
Deo gratias.

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is fitting and just to do so.

It is truly fitting and just, right and profitable, that at all times and everywhere we should give you thanks, holy Lord, almighty Father, eternal God, through Christ our Lord, through whom the angels praise your majesty, the dominations adore your majesty, the powers tremble at it, and the heavens and the forces of the heavens and the blessed Seraphim magnify it with shared exultation. We pray that you may bid our voices also to be admitted with them as we say in humble acknowledgement:

Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord, God of Hosts.

Full are Heaven and earth of your glory:
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord:
Hosanna in the highest.

O blessed father Donatian,
to the loving Lord Jesus pray for forgiveness for our sins.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

O blessed father Donatian, to the loving Lord Jesus
pray for forgiveness for our sins.

Blessed is that servant whom the Lord when he comes shall find watching: verily I say to you, over all his goods shall he shall make him ruler.

Go, the Mass is ended.
Thanks be to God.

Cappella Pratensis would like to express its thanks to Jennifer Bloxam for her support throughout this project and in particular in the organisation of this concert tour.

Cappella Pratensis is supported by the Dutch Ministry of Culture and the Culture Department of the Province of North-Brabant.

Upcoming Events:

- 10/29: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.
10/31: Violin Master Class with Miriam Fried, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 4:15 p.m.
10/31: Berkshire Symphony Orchestra, Chapin Hall, 8:00 p.m.
Pre-Concert Talk, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 7:15 p.m.
11/2: "Pulses of the MBIRA": Cosmas Magaya and Beauler Dyoco, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.
11/5: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.
11/7: Borromeo Quartet, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 8:00 p.m.
11/8: Small Jazz Ensembles, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 8:00 p.m.
11/12: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 12:15 p.m.
11/12: MIDWEEKMUSIC, Chapin Hall, 7:00 p.m. (Note evening time)
11/14: Williams Concert and Chamber Choirs, **Thompson Memorial Chapel**, 8:00 p.m.
11/15: Williams Symphonic Winds, Chapin Hall, 8:00 p.m.
11/16: Cantonese Opera: Music From China, Brooks-Rogers Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m.
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Music Ensembles Fund

Music Ensembles Fund

This fund has been established in support of the following ensembles at Williams:
Berkshire Symphony, Concert & Chamber Choir,
Jazz Ensemble, Symphonic Winds, and
Kusika and the Zambezi Marimba Band.

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for their annual support:

Angel

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