

Star of the Sea

Music from the Golden Age of Portugal



Cambridge Taverner Choir
Owen Rees, director

Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge
Sunday 12 July 2009, 7.30 pm

by kind permission of the Master and Fellows of Trinity College

Circumdederunt me	Aires Fernandez (<i>fl.</i> mid 16 th century)
Missa O soberana luz	Filipe de Magalães (c. 1571–1652)
Kyrie	
Gloria	
Ave regina cælorum	Pedro de Cristo (c. 1550–1618)
Missa O soberana luz	
Credo	
Sanctus	
Ave Maria	Pedro de Cristo
Missa O soberana luz	
Agnus Dei	
Salve regina	Estêvão de Brito (c. 1575–1641)

INTERVAL of 15 minutes

Dixit Dominus	Pedro de Cristo (c. 1550–1618)
from Missa sobre O gram senhora (first modern performance)	Brasil
Kyrie	
Agnus Dei	
Laudate pueri	Pedro de Cristo
Ave maris stella	Pedro de Cristo
Magnificat octavi toni	Pedro de Cristo
Versicle & reponse: Dominus vobiscum / Et cum spiritu tuo	Pedro de Cristo
Benedicamus Domino	Aires Fernandez
Alma redemptoris mater	Aires Fernandez

Cambridge Taverner Choir

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Sopranos: Helen Arnold, Catherine Conway, Josie Dixon, Rachel Godsill,
Hester Higton, Margaret Simper, Tanya Wicks

Altos: Bill Budd, Helen Garrison, Simon Godsill, Helen Zimmer

Tenors: William Blake, Tom Salmon, Edwin Simpson, Tom Sutch

Basses: Peter Collins, James Durran, Frank Salmon, Gary Snapper

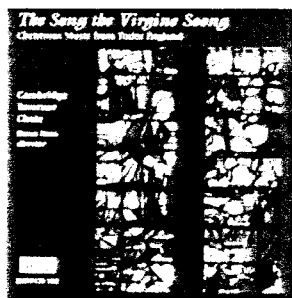
Cambridge Taverner Choir

CD Recordings

Available for sale tonight

THE SONG THE VIRGINE SOONG

Music for a Tudor Christmas



**MUSIC FROM
RENAISSANCE PORTUGAL
Vol 2**

Sheer musicianship ...beautiful music superbly performed (*Gramophone*)

Performances that will be hard to surpass (*Early Music*)

Passionate singing (*Early Music Review*)

Highly recommended (*BBC Music, Classic CD*)

The Cambridge Taverner Choir is one of Britain's leading early music chamber choirs. Like The Tallis Scholars and The Sixteen, the choir emerged from the Oxford and Cambridge choral tradition and has built a reputation for powerful and expressive performances of Renaissance polyphony. Since reaching the shortlist for the Gramophone Early Music Award in 1994, the choir has received acclaim for its concerts and recordings of Renaissance choral music. Recently, the choir has performed at the York Early Music Festival and the Oslo Church Music Festival, and released its fourth CD, *Music from Renaissance Portugal II*. In addition to appearances throughout Britain and abroad, the choir regularly performs to enthusiastic audiences in the beautiful and resonant medieval environments of Trinity College Chapel and Little St Mary's Church in Cambridge, and the Church of St Cross in Winchester. For further information, please see the Choir's website at www.cambridgetavernerchoir.org.uk.

Owen Rees is both scholar and performer; his work as a scholar has consistently informed his work as a performer. As director of the *Cambridge Taverner Choir*, *A Capella Portuguesa* and the Choir of the Queen's College, Oxford, he has, for instance, brought to the concert hall and the recording studio substantial repertoires of magnificent, and previously unknown, music from Renaissance Portugal—the fruits of his research in such cities as Coimbra and Lisbon. His interpretations of this repertory have been acclaimed as 'rare examples of scholarship and musicianship combining to result in performances that are both impressive and immediately attractive to the listener', and he has been described as 'one of the most energetic and persuasive voices' in this field.

As well as his pioneering work in the music of Renaissance Portugal, Rees has also specialised in the music of Tudor England and of Spain in the 'Golden Age'. Over the twenty-three years of its existence, he has directed the *Cambridge Taverner Choir* in a wide survey of Renaissance music not only from these countries, but also from Italy, Germany, and the Netherlands. As director of the *Cambridge Taverner Choir* and other groups, he has performed Renaissance, Baroque, and contemporary choral music; he has conducted at festivals in the UK, Portugal, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, Norway, the Netherlands, and the USA; and he has broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and 4, and on Portuguese, Spanish, and German National Radio. He has released CD recordings on the Herald, Hyperion, Guild, and Unicorn Kanchana labels, to consistently high critical acclaim.

Owen Rees began his academic career as Organ Scholar at St Catharine's College, Cambridge. After a spell as College Lecturer in Music at St Peter's College and St Edmund Hall, Oxford, he taught at the University of Surrey, and in 1997 returned to Oxford, where he is Fellow in Music and Organist at The Queen's College, and Reader in the Faculty of Music.

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The music of Portugal's 'golden age' has become much better known during recent decades, but many discoveries remain to be made and mysteries to be solved. Tonight's concert focuses on music in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, lauded as 'star of the sea' in the hymn *Ave maris stella* and the Marian antiphon *Alma redemptoris mater*. The composer of the four-voice setting of *Ave maris stella* included tonight, Pedro de Cristo, was chapelmaster at two of Portugal's greatest monasteries: Santa Cruz in the northern university city of Coimbra, and São Vicente de Fora in the capital Lisbon, rebuilt in grand classical style at the end of the sixteenth century and overlooking the River Tagus. The composer of the *Alma redemptoris mater* with which we end the concert, Aires Fernandez, remains a mysterious figure: although he was clearly one of Portugal's great Renaissance composers, we know nothing of his life, and little of his music has so far been recovered complete. The six-voice motet *Circumdederunt me* is the largest-scale work by him so far discovered. A mystery also attaches to the five-voice Mass which is the main piece in the concert's first half: the *Missa O soberana luz* by Filipe de Magalhães (chapelmaster of the Royal Chapel in Lisbon) is clearly – as the title shows – based on a Spanish sacred *villancico*, but we are still searching for the piece concerned. The Mass is an extraordinary piece, and perhaps the finest by Magalhães: its vocal scoring covers an unusual broad range, and it sets the text using dramatic shifts of pace, with rhythmically animated declamation in the 'Gloria' and 'Credo' for example. A similarly dramatic approach to rhythm and text is heard in the two-choir setting of the *Magnificat*, the Cantic of Mary, by Pedro de Cristo, and in that composer's treatment (again for two choirs) of the opening psalm of Marian Vespers, *Dixit Dominus*. We conclude the first part of the concert with a setting of the most famous of the Marian antiphons, *Salve regina*, set here for four voices by Estêvão de Brito, one of many Portuguese composers of the period who went to work in Spain: in this case, Malaga. Many works from Portugal remain to be transcribed from the manuscript sources: tonight we give the first modern performances of part of the *Missa sobre O gram Senhora* from a seventeenth-century manuscript in Arouca, which is intriguingly attributed to 'Brasil'.

Texts

Circumdederunt me dolores mortis: dolores inferni circumdederunt me: praeocupaverunt me laquei mortis.
The anguish of death surrounds me; the pains of hell are all about me; the snares of death have captured me.

Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison.
Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

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.
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace to men of good will. We praise thee. We bless thee. We worship thee. We glorify thee. We give thanks to thee for thy great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty. Lord Jesus Christ, only-begotten Son. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father. Thou that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takes away the sins of the world, hear our prayer. Thou that sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy. Thou only art the Lord. Thou only art the most high, Jesus Christ., with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Ave regina caelorum,
ave, domina angelorum:
salve radix sancta
ex qua mundo lux est orta:
Gaude gloriosa,
super omnes speciosa,
Vale valde decora,
et pro nobis semper Christum exora.
Hail, Queen of the heavens,
Hail, ruler of the angels:
Hail, holy root
from whom light has shone to the world.
Hail, glorious one,
beautiful above all,
farewell, O most comely,
and pray always to Christ for us.

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 iterum venturus est cum gloria, judicare vivos et mortuos: cujus regni non erit finis. Et in Spiritum Sanctum Dominum, et vivificantem: qui ex Patre Filioque procedit. Qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur, et conglorificatur: qui locutus est per prophetas. Et unam sanctam catholicam et apostolicam ecclesiam. Confiteor unum baptisma in remissionem peccatorum. Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum, et vitam venturi saeculi. Amen.

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, the only-begotten Son of God, and begotten of the Father before all ages. God from God, light from light, true God from true God. Begotten, not made, 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 became incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. He was crucified also for us: he suffered death under Pontius Pilate and was buried. And on the third day he rose again, in accordance with the scriptures. And ascended into heaven: he is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory, to judge the living and the dead: and his kingdom will have no end. And [I believe] in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, and giver of life: who proceeds from the Father and the Son: who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified: who spoke through the prophets. 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.

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui. Spiritus sanctus superveniet in te, et virtus altissimi obumbravit tibi. Idoeque quod nascetur ex te sanctum vocabitur filius Dei.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. The Holy spirit will come upon thee, and the power of the Highest will cover thee with its shadow. And therefore that holy thing which is to be born of thee will be called the Son of God.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis.
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Salve regina, mater misericordiæ, vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exsules filii Hevæ.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lachrimarum valle.
Eia ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte;
et Jesum benedictum fructum ventris tui nobis post hoc exilium ostende.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis virgo Maria.
Hail, Queen, mother of mercy,
our life, our sweetness, and our hope, Hail.
To thee do we cry, banished children of Eve;
to thee do we sigh,
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then, our advocate,
thy merciful eyes toward us;
and, after this our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O holy, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Dixit Dominus Domino meo, sede a dextris meis: donec ponam inimicos tuos scabellum pedum tuorum.
Virgam virtutis tuæ emittet Dominus ex Sion: dominare in medio inimicorum tuorum.
Tecum principium in die virtutis tuæ: in splendoribus sanctorum ex utero ante luciferum genui te.
Juravit Dominus et non pænitebit eum: tu es sacerdos in æternum secundum ordinem Melchisedech.
Dominus a dextris tuis: confregit in die iræ suæ 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 sæcula sæculorum. Amen.
The Lord said unto my Lord: Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.
The Lord shall send the rod of thy power out of Sion: be thou ruler 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; he shall fill the places with the dead bodies, and smite the heads in many lands.
He shall drink from the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up 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. World without end. Amen.

Laudate pueri Dominum: laudate nomen Domini.
Sit nomen Domini benedictum, ex hoc nunc et usque in sæculum.
A solis ortu usque ad occasum, laudabile nomen Domini.
Excelsus super omnes gentes Dominus, et super cælos gloria ejus.
Quis sicut Dominus Deus noster, qui in altis habitat,
Et humilia respicit in cælo 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 lætantem.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.
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 dwells on high,
and looks far down upon the heavens and the earth?
He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the mire.
That he may make him sit with princes, with the princes of his people.
He gives the barren woman a home, a joyful mother of children.
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. World without end. Amen.*

Ave maris stella,
Dei mater alma,
Atque semper virgo,
Felix cæli porta.

*Hail star of the sea,
Nourishing mother of God,
And always virgin,
Happy gate of heaven.*

Sumens illud ave
Gabrielis ore,
Funda nos in pace,
mutans Hevæ nomen.

*Receiving that 'ave'
From the mouth of Gabriel,
Secure us in peace,
Changing the name 'Eve'.*

Solve vincla reis,
Profer lumen cæcis:
Mala nostra pelle,
Bona cuncta posce.

*Loose the chains from the guilty,
Bring light to the blind,
Drive away our ills,
Seek blessings for all men.*

Monstra te esse matrem:
Sumat per te preces,
Qui pro nobis natus
Tulit esse tuus.

*Show yourself to be His mother:
Through you may He receive our prayers,
Who, born for us,
Chose to be yours.*

Virgo singularis,
Inter omnes mitis,
Nos culpis solutos
Mites fac et castos.

*Unparalleled virgin,
Mild above all others,
When we are freed from our sins
Make us mild and pure.*

Vitam præsta puram,
Iter para tutum:
Ut videntes Jesum
Semper collætémur.

*Grant us a pure life,
Prepare a safe journey,
So that seeing Jesus
We may rejoice always.*

Sit laus Deo Patri,
Summo Christo decus,
Spiritui Sancto,
Tribus honor unus.

*Praise be to God the Father,
Glory to Christ most high,
And to the Holy Ghost,
Triple honour in one.*

Amen.

Amen.

Magnificat anima mea Dominum, et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.
Quia respexit humilitatem ancillæ suæ. 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 misericordiæ suæ.
Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini ejus in sæcula.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto,
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in sæcula sæculorum. Amen.
*My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
Because he hath regarded the humility of his handmaid. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
Because he that is mighty hath done great things to me, and holy is his name.
And his mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear him.
He hath showed might in his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He hath received Israel his servant, being mindful of his mercy:*

*As he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to 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. World without end. Amen.*

*Benedicamus Domino. Deo gratias.
Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

Alma redemptoris mater, quæ pervia cæli porta manes, et stella maris, succurre cadenti surgere qui curat populum. Tu quæ genuisti, natura mirante, tuum sanctum genitorem, virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud Ave peccatorum miserere.

Nourishing mother of the redeemer, who art the open door to heaven, and star of the sea, help the falling people who strive to rise. Thou who gave birth, with nature wondering, to thy Holy Creator, virgin before and after, receiving that 'Ave' from the mouth of Gabriel, have mercy on sinners.