

Christopher Page Gresham Professor of Music

Music, imagination and experience in the medieval world

V The mystery of women





et ofringit & reducit p infusionem experimentoy Quando autem  
malū ad te gladiū suū educit tu illud in cor illi refingit sicut  
in primo p dno angelo fecisti ubi turrū supbie illius in infernū  
deiecisti Et ubi aliā turrū in publicanis & peccatorib' eleuasti qui  
tibi peccata sua cū opib' suis confitent. Vnde omīs creaturę que  
de te uiuunt te laudant quia tu preciosissimum ungentam et fide  
at & feridū uulnerib' ubi illa in preciosissimas gemmas uertit.  
Nūc dignare nos omīs ad te colligere & ad recta uerera dirige te  
**O** ignis sp̄s **S** e q u e n t i a **I** a m e n .  
paracleti uita uite omnis creaturę sanctus et uiuificando formas.  
S̄s et ungerendo p̄culose fractos sc̄s et cergendo fetida uulnera.  
sp̄uculum sc̄itatis o ignis caritatis o dulcis gustus in pectoribus

Texts of chants sung by Emily Van Evera

## O ignis spiritus (to the Holy Ghost)

O ignis Spiritus paracliti, vita vite omnis creature, sanctus es vivificando formas.

*O fire of Spirit, life of the life of all creation, holy in quickening all kind.*

Sanctus es unguendo periculose fractos, sanctus es tergendo fetida vulnera.

*You are holy anointing the dangerously stricken, in wiping the reeking wound.*

O spiraculum sanctitatis, o ignis caritatis, o dulcis gustus in pectoribus et infusio cordium in bono odore virtutum.

*O breath of holiness, O fire of love, O draught in the breast and flooding of the heart with the good aroma of virtues.*

O fons purissime, in quo consideratur quod Deus alienos colligit et perditos requirit.

*O purest fountain, in whom it is seen that God has summoned the gentiles and sought out the lost.*

O lorica vite et spes compaginis membrorum omnium et o cingulum honestatis: salva beatos.

*O mail-coat of life, and hope of binding all the members of Ecclesia, O sword belt of honesty, save the blessed.*

Custodi eos qui carcerati sunt ab inimico, et solve ligatos quos divina vis salvare vult.

*Guard all those who have been imprisoned by the Enemy, and release the fettered whom Divine Power wishes to save.*

O iter fortissimum, quod penetravit omnia in altissimis et in terrenis et in omnibus abyssis, tu omnes componis et colligis.

*O most steadfast path that has penetrated all things; in the highest places, on the plains and in every abyss, you summon and unite all.*

De te nubes fluunt, ether volat, lapides humorem habent, aque rivulos educunt, et terra viriditatem sudat.

*Through you the clouds stream, the upper air flies, the stones have their temper, the waters lead forth their rills and the earth exudes freshness.*

Tu etiam semper educis doctos per inspirationem Sapientie letificatos.

*You also always lead forth the comprehending, made joyful by the inspiration of wisdom.*

Unde laus tibi sit, qui es sonus laudis et gaudium vite, spes et honor fortissimus, dans premia lucis.

Wherefore praise be to you who are the sound of praise and bliss of life, hope and richest gift giving the rewards of light.

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### O *viridissima virga* (to the Virgin Mary)

O *viridissima virga*, ave, que in ventoso flabro sciscitationis sanctorum prodisti.

*Hail, O greenest branch, sprung forth in airy breezes of the prayers of the saints.*

Cum venit tempus quod tu floruisti in ramis tuis, ave, ave fuit tibi quia calor solis in te sudavit sicut odor balsami.

*When the time came that you flowered in your branches, there was 'Hail, Hail' to you, because the heat of the sun has exuded from you like the aroma of balm.*

Nam in te floruit pulcher flos qui odorem dedit omnibus aromatibus que arida erant.

*For the beautiful flower sprang from you which gave odour to all the perfumes which were dry.*

Et illa apparuerunt omnia in viriditate plena.

*And they radiated anew in their freshness.*

Unde celi dederunt rorem super gramen et omnis terra leta facta est, quoniam viscera ipsius frumentum protulerunt et quoniam volucres celi nidos in ipsa habuerunt.

*Whence the skies bestowed dew upon the pasture, and all the Earth was made joyful because her womb brought forth corn and because the birds of the firmament built their nests in her.*

Deinde facta est esca hominibus et gaudium magnum epulantium. Unde, o suavis Virgo, in te non deficit ullum gaudium.

Then there was a harvest made ready for Man, and a great rejoicing of banqueters, whence O sweet Virgin, no joy is lacking in you.

Hec omnia Eva contempsit. Nunc autem laus sit Altissimo.

Even rejected all these things; now let there be praise to the Highest,

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### O *Jerusalem* (for St. Rupert)

O Jerusalem, aurea civitas, ornata regis purpura. O edificatio summe bonitatis, que es lux numquam obscurata.

*O Jerusalem, golden city, adorned with kingly purple; O edifice of highest excellence, a light never darkened.*

Tu enim es ornata in aurora, et in calore solis.

*You are adorned in the dawn and in the heat of the sun.*

O beata pueritia, que rutilas in aurora, et o laudabilis adolescentia, que ardes in sole.

*O blessed childhood which gleams in the dawn, o praiseworthy youth, aflame in the sun.*

Nam tu, O nobilis Ruperte, in his sicut gemma fulsisti, unde non potes abscondi stultis hominibus, sicut nec mons valli celatur.

*For you, O noble Rupert, shimmer in these like a jewel. You cannot be hidden by human foolishness, just as a mountain cannot be hidden by a valley.*

Fenestre tue, Jerusalem, cum topazio et saphiro specialiter sunt decorate.

*Your windows, Jerusalem, are carefully decorated with topaz and sapphire.*

In quibus dum fulges, O Ruperte, non potes abscondi tepidis moribus, sicut nec mons valli, coronatus rosis, liliis et purpura in vera ostensione.

*In these windows you blaze, O Rupert, and cannot be hidden by tepid mortals, just as a mountain cannot be hidden by a valley, crowned with roses, lilies and purple, in a true revelation.*

O tener flos campi, et O dulcis viriditas pomi, et O sarcina sine medulla, que non flectit pectora in crimina.

*O tender flower of the grassland, O sweet greenness of the apple, O garnered load without pith, none stoop to evil from your weight.*

O vas nobile, quod non est pollutum nec devoratum in saltatione antique spelunce, et quod non est maceratum in vulneribus antiqui perditoris.

*O noble vessel which was not polluted nor drained in the dance in the old cave and is not weakened by wounds from the ancient destroyer.*

In te symphonizat Spiritus Sanctus, quia angelicis choris associaris, et quoniam in Filio Dei ornaris, cum nullam maculam habes.

*In you sings the Holy Spirit, with whom the angelic choir unites, and through whom you are adorned in the Son of God, since you are without stain.*

O Jerusalem, fundamentum tuum positum est cum torrentibus lapidibus, quod est cum publicanis et peccatoribus, qui perditae oves erant, sed per Filium Dei invente ad te cucurrerunt et in te positi sunt.

*O Jerusalem, your foundation is laid with showering stones, which are the tax-gatherers and sinners who were lost sheep, but discovered by the Son of God they ran to you, and were placed in you.*

Unde vos, o ornati et o coronati, qui habitatis in Jerusalem, et o tu, Ruperte, qui es socius eorum in hac habitatione, succurrite nobis famulantibus et in exilio laborantibus.

*Therefore, O you adorned and crowned ones who dwell in Jerusalem, and you, O Rupert, who are their companion in that dwelling, help us, who are serving and laboring in exile.*