

BERNAT VIVANCOS

REQUIEM

FOR MIXED CHOIR,
NARRATOR,
5 VIOLONCELLOS, ACCORDÉON,
AND PERCUSSIONS



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Ref. 0033

A la memòria del meu pare

The main musical motif of this "Requiem" is based on three notes,
three joint degrees descendants
representing that God does come to pick us up,
not we who ascend to heaven.

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Requiem

Requiem, (in latin “rest”) wants to be a hymn to the contemplation of life and death.

The structure of this "Requiem" is not traditional, nor follows the texts of the Catholic liturgical tradition. The concept is new, original, without linking to any previously established canon. It consists of the following parts:

I-. Introduction:	Requiem – Introduction
II-.	Goodness
III-.	Love
IV-.	Prayer
V-.	Death
VI-.	Trust
VII-.	Light
VIII-.	Paradise

First it is exposed, blurred in resonances, the first song of the Requiem. Then follows a first part where there are three important aspects of earthly life: Goodness, Love and Prayer. Death, taking the central part of the Requiem, precedes three songs with a more hopeful vision: Trust, Light, and finally symbolizing Paradise, the return of the initial song “Requiem”, now “Aeternam”.

Every part uses different texts, and between the parties, a narrator recites phrases or thoughts of several authors, religions, cultures and personalities.

I-. Introduction	Aeternam	Misa Defunctorum	- Latin -
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<u>About Life:</u>			
<i>Apostolic Exhortation – Pope Francis</i>			
II-. Goodness	Les béatitudes	Mt 5, 3-12	- French -
- - -			
<i>The Prophet - Kahlil Gibran</i>			
III-. Love	L’amour, le temps,...	Italian proverb	- French -
<i>Jn 19, 25-27</i>			
IV-. Prayer	O Virgo Splendens	Llibre Vermell de Montserrat	- Latin -
- - -			
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<u>About Death:</u>			
<i>The active decay stage of decomposition - Anderson / Payne</i>			
V-. Death	Lasciatemi morire	Ottavio Rinuccini	- Italian -
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<u>About Hope:</u>			
<i>La Place de l’homme dans la nature - Pierre Teilhard de Chardin</i>			
VI-. Trust	Souffle ta bougie	Denis Diderot	- French -
- - -			
<i>Prayers and Meditations - Bahá'u'lláh</i>			
VII-. Light	O Lux beata	Saint Ambrose	- Latin -
- - -			
<i>Homily – Father Josep Maria Cardona</i>			
VIII-. Paradise	Lux Perpetua	Misa Defunctorum	- Latin -
- - -			
<i>1 Co 2: 9</i>			
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The work is concived to be performed by mixed choir (minimum 24 voices), 6 soloists (S. I - S. II - A. - TI - T.II / Bar. - B.), solo cello and cello quartet, accordion, narrator, and percussion (tubular bells, Tam-tams).			
Duration: ± 1h 45m. aprox.			
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- I -

- Introduction -

“Aeternam”

- Do not recite any initial text
- Composition:
 - Mixed choir a cappella
 - Duradation 9 / 10 m. approx.
 - Text:

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis.

Missa Defunctorum

About life ...

- II -

“Les béatitudes”

(Goodness)

- Introductory text:

“Solidarity is a spontaneous reaction by those who recognize that the social function of property and the universal destination of goods are realities which come before private property. The private ownership of goods is justified by the need to protect and increase them, so that they can better serve the common good; for this reason, solidarity must be lived as the decision to restore to the poor what belongs to them.

Sometimes it is a matter of hearing the cry of entire peoples, the poorest peoples of the earth, since “peace is founded not only on respect for human rights, but also on respect for the rights of peoples”.[154] Sadly, even human rights can be used as a justification for an inordinate defense of individual rights or the rights of the richer peoples. With due respect for the autonomy and culture of every nation, we must never forget that the planet belongs to all mankind and is meant for all mankind; the mere fact that some people are born in places with fewer resources or less development does not justify the fact that they are living with less dignity.”

Pope Francis
Apostolic Exhortation (189-190)
Evangelii Gaudium
November 24th 2013

- Composition:

- Mixed Choir a capella
- Text in French
- Duration: 22 m. approx.
- Text:

Heureux les pauvres en esprit, car le Royaume des Cieux est à eux.

Heureux les doux, car ils recevront la terre en héritage.

Heureux les affligés, car ils seront consolés.

Heureux les affamés et assoiffés de la justice, car ils seront rassasiés.

Heureux les miséricordieux, car ils obtiendront miséricorde.

Heureux les cœurs purs, car ils verront Dieu.

Heureux les artisans de paix, car ils seront appelés fils de Dieu.

Heureux les persécutés pour la justice, car le Royaume des Cieux est à eux.

Heureux êtes-vous si l'on vous insulte, si l'on vous persécute et si l'on vous calomnie de toutes manières à cause de moi. Soyez dans la joie et l'allégresse, car votre récompense sera grande dans les cieux.

Mt 5, 3-12

- III -

“L’amour, le temps...”

(Love)

- Introductory text:

*“Love one another, but make not a bond of love:
Let it rather be a moving sea between the shores of your souls.
Fill each other's cup but drink not from one cup.
Give one another of your bread but eat not from the same loaf
Sing and dance together and be joyous, but let each one of you be alone,
Even as the strings of a lute are alone though they quiver with the same music.”*

Kahlil Gibran
The Prophet, 1923

- Obra:

- Calispherophonograma – spherical score
- Mixed choir and soloists
- Duration 4 m. approx.
- Text:

**“L’amour fait passer le temps,
et le temps fait passer l’amour”.**

Italian proverb

- IV -

“O Virgo Splendens”

(Prayer)

- Introductory text:

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her:

- “Woman, here is your son,”

and to the disciple:

- “Here is your mother.”

John 19, 25-27

- Composition:
 - o Soprano solo and mixed choir a cappella
 - o Duration 13 m. approx.
 - o Text:

**O Virgo splendens hic in monte celso
miraculis serrato fulgentibus ubique
quem fideles conscendunt universi.
Eya pietatis oculo placato,
cerne ligatos fune peccatorum,
ne infernorum ictibus graventur,
sed cum beatis tua prece vocentur.**

Anonymous - Llibre Vermell de Montserrat – S. XIV

About Death ...

- V -

“Lasciatemi morire”

(Death)

- Tubular Bells and Tam-Tam
- Accordion
- Introductory text:

The beginning of active decay stage is marked by the deflation of the carcass as feeding Dipteran larvae pierce the skin and internal gases are released. During this stage the carcass has a characteristic wet appearance due to the liquefaction of tissues. Flesh from the head and around the anus and umbilical cord is removed by larval feeding activity. A strong odor of putrefaction is associated with the carcass. Feeding larvae of Calliphoridae flies are the dominant insect group at carcasses during the active decay stage. At the beginning of the stage larvae are concentrated in natural orifices, which offer the least resistance to feeding. Towards later stages, when flesh has been removed from the head and orifices, larvae become more concentrated in the thoracic and abdominal cavities. Adult calliphorids and muscids decreased in

numbers during this stage, and were not observed to be mating. However, non-Calliphoridae Dipterans are collected from carcasses. The first members of Sepsidae arrive at the carcass during the active decay stage. Members of Coleoptera become the dominant adult insects at the site of remains. In particular, the numbers of staphylinids and histerids increase.

Anderson G.S., VanLaerhoven S.L. (1996). "Initial studies on insect succession on carrion in southwestern British Columbia". *Journal of Forensic Sciences* 41 (4): 617-625.
Payne, J.A. (1965). "A summer carrion study of the baby pig *sus scrofa* Linnaeus". *Ecology* 46 (5): 511-523

- Composition:
 - o Violoncello solo, four violoncellos, mixed choir and soloists
 - o Duration 14 m. approx.
 - o Text:

**Lasciatemi morire!
E che volete che mi conforte
in così dura sorte,
in così gran martire?
Lasciatemi morire!**

Ottavio Rinuccini (1562-1621)

- o Minute of silence

About Hope ...

- VI -

"Souffle ta bougie " (Trust)

- Introductory text

"Someday, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then, for a second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire."

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin
La Place de l'homme dans la nature, 1949

- Composition:
 - o Mixed Choir and Accordion
 - o Duration 13 m. approx.
 - o Text:

**Égaré dans une forêt immense pendant la nuit,
je n'ai qu'une petite lumière pour me conduire;
survient un inconnu qui me dit:
Mon ami, souffle ta bougie
pour mieux trouver ton chemin.**

Denis Diderot
Addition aux Pensées philosophiques, 1746

- VII -

“O Lux beata “
(Light)

- Introductory Text:

“Enable, then, Thy servants, O my God, to recognize the Day-Star that hath shone forth above the horizon of Thine irrevocable decree and purpose, and suffer them not to be deprived of the Paradise which Thou, by Thy name, the All-Glorious, hast called into being in the heavens of Thine exalted omnipotence. Cause them, moreover, O my God, to hearken to Thy most sweet voice, that they may all hasten to recognize Thy unity and acknowledge Thy oneness, O Thou Who art the Beloved of the hearts of all that yearn after Thee, and the Object of the adoration of such as have known Thee!”

Bahá'u'lláh
Prayers and Meditations– XXIV

- Composition:

- Mixed choir and soloists a cappella
- Duration 11 m. approx.
- Text:

**O Lux beata Trinitas,
et principalis Unitas,
iam sol recedit igneus,
infunde lumen cordibus.**

**Te mane laudum carmine,
te deprecemur vespere:
te nostra supplex gloria
per cuncta laudet saecula.**

**Deo Patri sit gloria,
eiusque soli Filio,
cum Spiritu Paraclito,
et nunc, et in perpetuum.**

Saint Ambrose
Liturgy of the Hours, 4th c.

- VIII -

“Lux Perpetua”
(Paradise)

- Introductory Text:

“The path of life, for me, consists of three main phases. First, is the gestation inside the mother’s body, the second, which may seem longer, from childhood to old age (if it’s arrive) and the third, the most important for believers, is to go to the the House of the Father. ”

*Father Josep Maria Cardona
Homily, august 31th 2001*

- Composition:
 - Mixed choir a cappella (24 voices)
 - Duration 11 m. approx.
 - Text:

**Requiem æternam dona eis* (ei), Domine,
et lux perpetua luceat eis (ei).**

Missa Defunctorum

* * *

- Tubular Bells and Tam-Tam
- Conclusive text:

*What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what
no human mind has conceived the things God has prepared
for those who love him.*

1 Co 2: 9

- Accordion
 - Minute of silence
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