

STABAT MATER

SIR JAMES MACMILLAN CBE, 2016

Felix namque Thomas Preston c.1500–63

*Commissioned by the Genesis Foundation
for Harry Christophers and The Sixteen*

1. Plainsong *Stabat mater*

For text see sections 2 – 5

2. I. *Stabat mater*

Soli: Julie Cooper *soprano*, Daniel Collins *alto*, Jeremy Budd *tenor*, Ben Davies *bass*

*Stabat mater dolorosa
iuxta crucem lacrimosa,
dum pendebat Filius.*

*Cuius animam gementem,
contristatam et dolentem,
pertransiuit 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, qui non fleret,
matrem Christi si videret
in tanto supplicio?*

3. II. *Quis non posset contristari*

Soli: Daniel Collins *alto*, Jeremy Budd *tenor*

*Quis non posset contristari
Christi matrem contemplari
dolentem cum Filio?*

*Pro peccatis suae gentis
vidit Jesum 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 complaceam.*

The sorrowful mother stood
full of tears by the cross
while her Son hung there.

Whose soul, lamenting,
sorrowing and grieving,
has been pierced by the sword.

O how sad and afflicted
was that blessed
mother of her only Son!

Who wept and grieved
and trembled to behold
the torment of her glorious child.

What man would not weep
if he saw the mother of Christ
in such distress?

Who could not be sorrowful
to see the pious mother
grieving with her Son?

For the sins of his people
she saw Jesus in torment,
and subjected to lashes.

She saw her sweet Son
dying, deserted,
as he gave up the spirit.

O mother, fount of love,
let me feel the force of your grief
that I may mourn with you.

Make my heart burn
with love for Christ the God,
that I may be pleasing to him.

4 III. *Sancta mater, istud agas*

Soli: Jeremy Budd, Mark Dobell, Simon Berridge, George Pooley *tenor*

*Sancta mater, istud agas,
Crucifixi fige plagas
cordi meo valide.*

*Tui nati vulnerati,
tam dignati pro me pati,
poenas mecum divide.*

*Fac me tecum pie flere,
Crucifixo condolere,
donec ego vixero.*

*Iuxta crucem tecum stare,
et me tibi sociare
in planctu desidero.*

*Virgo virginum praeclara,
mihi iam non sis amara:
fac me tecum plangere.*

Holy mother, bring this to pass,
transfix the wounds of him who is
crucified deep into my heart.

Of your wounded Son,
who deigns to suffer for my sake,
let me share the pains.

Let me weep with you, pious one,
grieving with him who is crucified,
so that I may live.

To stand beside you at the cross,
to be freely joined with you
in lamentation I desire.

Virgin of virgins, resplendent,
do not now be bitter towards me:
let me weep with you.

5. IV. *Fac, ut portem Christi mortem*

Soli: Julie Cooper soprano, Jeremy Budd *tenor*

*Fac, ut portem Christi mortem,
passionis fac consortem,
et plagas recolere.*

*Fac me plagis vulnerari,
fac me cruce inebriari,
et cruore Filii.*

*Flammis ne urar succensus,
per te, Virgo, sim defensus
in die iudicii.*

*Christe, cum sit hinc exire,
da per matrem me venire
ad palmam victoriae.*

*Quando corpus morietur,
fac ut animae donetur
Paradisi gloria. Amen*

Let me carry Christ's death,
the destiny of his passion,
and meditate upon his wounds.

Let me be wounded with his wounds,
let me be inebriated by the cross,
and your Son's blood.

Lest I burn, set afire by flames,
Virgin, may I be defended by you
on the day of judgement.

Christ, when it is time to pass away,
grant that through your mother I may come
to the palm of victory.

When my body dies,
let my soul be given
the glory of Paradise. Amen.

Attributed to Jacopone da Todi (c.1230–1306)