

# The Orlando Consort

## “The Ambassadors” Texts and English Translations

*Please turn pages as quietly as possible*

### **Busnois: Gaude celestis Domina**

#### **First part:**

Gaude celestis Domina  
transgressa super agmina  
que cantant semper carmina  
tuo benigno filio.

Rejoice, heavenly lady  
who has gone above the throngs  
that for ever sing hymns  
to your bounteous Son.

Gaude quod tua facies  
illustret celi facies  
tuaque clara species  
ut mundum sol ex radio

Rejoice that your countenance  
and your beauty  
light up the face of heaven  
as the sun lights up the world with its rays.

Gaude cui obediunt  
et te revera sitiunt  
tibi se subiciunt  
angeli obsequio

Rejoice, you whom angels obey  
and truly thirst after,  
to you they submit  
with reverence.

Gaude quod tui servuli  
nunc et in fine seculi  
et hoc in ictu oculi  
suo fruuntur premio

Rejoice that your servants  
now and at the end of time  
and in this blinking of an eye  
delight in their reward.

Gaude deo vicinior  
et ad precandum potior  
tu quae cunctis potentior  
in summo sedes solio.

Rejoice, you who are nearer God  
and superior in prayer  
you who, more powerful than all,  
sit on the highest throne.

#### **Second part:**

Gaude quod sanctos superas  
in hoc questo imperas  
dum ad precandum te prepares  
ut potens mater filio

Rejoice that you surpass the saints  
you rule on this dais  
while you prepare yourself for praying  
as the powerful mother to your Son.

Gaude quia delectaris  
dum a nato veneraris  
ei semper coniungaris  
tanto digna filio.

Rejoice because you delight  
while you are venerated by your Son  
and are ever joined with him  
worthy of such a son.

Gaude quod tua gloria  
omni carebit tristitia;  
perpes manes in primia.  
Deo nos reconcilia

Rejoice that your glory  
will be free from all sadness;  
you ever remain in the place of honor.  
reconcile us to God.

Que es mater cum filio  
ora ut ipso tuo gaudio  
fungamur in perpetuo  
Amen.

Pray, you who are mother with son,  
that we may ever partake  
of this your joy.  
Amen.

### **Hayne van Ghiseghem: De tous biens plaine**

De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse,  
Chascun luy doibt tribut d'honneur;  
Car assouvye est en valeur  
Autant que jamais fut déesse.

My mistress is full of all qualities,  
everyone owes her honorable tribute,  
since she is just as precious  
as any goddess ever was.

### **Morton: Il sera pour vous / L'homme armé**

Il sera pour vous conbatu  
Le doubté Turcq, Maistre Symon,  
Certainement ce sera mon,  
Et le crocq de ache abatu.

The battle will be fought for you  
against the Turk, Master Simon,  
certainly it will be,  
and the axe will beat him.

Son orgueil tenons abatu  
S'il chiet en voz mains le felon,  
Il sera pour vous...

His pride will be humbled  
if the villain falls into your hands,  
The battle will be fought...

En peu de heure l'arés batu  
Au plaisir Dieu, puis dira on:  
Vive Symonet le Breton,  
Que sur le Turcq s'est enbatu.

Soon you will have him beaten  
to please God, then we shall say  
Long live Simonet the Breton  
who has fought against the Turk.

Il sera pour vous...

The battle will be fought...

### **Tenor:**

L'homme, l'homme, l'homme armé  
L'homme armé doibt on doubter.  
On a fait partout crier:  
A l'assault  
D'un haubregon de fer.

The man, the man, the armed man,  
beware of the armed man.  
Everywhere is the cry:  
Into battle  
With an iron breastplate.

**Anonymous: Gaude virgo**

Gaude virgo mater Christi,  
que per aurem concepisti  
Gabrielis nuntio;  
Gaude quia Deo plena  
peperisti sine pena  
cum pudoris lilio.  
Gaude quia tui nati  
quem dolebas morte pati  
fulget resurrectio.  
Gaude Christo ascendente;  
et in celum te vidente  
motu fertur proprio.  
Gaude quod post ipsum scandis  
et est honor tibi grandis  
in celi palatio,  
Ubi fructu ventris tui  
per te detur nobis frui  
in perenni gaudio.  
Omnis virtus te decorat,  
omnis fons te honorat  
in celesti patria.  
Omnes te benedicunt  
et laudantes tibi dicunt  
Ave plena gratia.  
Propter plagas Jesu Christi  
quas cruentas flens vidisti  
pro nostra miseria,  
fac nos dignos te videre,  
et videndo te gaudere,  
in futura gloria.  
Amen.

**Lambe: Stella celi extirpavit**

Stella celi extirpavit,  
que lactavit Dominum,  
mortis pestem quam plantavit  
primus parens hominum.  
Ipsa stella nunc dignetur  
sidera comperescere  
quorum bella plebem cedunt  
dire mortis ulcere.  
O gloriosa stella maris,  
a peste succurre nobis.  
Audi nos, nam te filius  
nihil negans honorat.  
Salva nos, Jesu Christe,  
pro quibus virgo mater te orat.

Rejoice, Virgin Mother of Christ,  
who through thine ear didst conceive  
upon Gabriel's message;  
Rejoice because, full of God,  
thou gavest birth without pain  
with the lily of chastity.  
Rejoice because of the Son,  
at whose suffering death thou wast grieved,  
the Resurrection now blazeth forth.  
Rejoice at Christ's ascension  
even to heaven, in thy sight,  
he is borne by his own motion.  
Rejoice that thou climbest after him  
and that thou hast great honor  
in the palace of heaven,  
Where may it be given us  
to enjoy the fruit of thy womb  
in perpetual rejoicing.  
Every virtue adorneth thee,  
every fountain honoreth thee  
in the heavenly fatherland.  
All bless thee  
and in praise say to thee:  
"Hail full of grace!"  
For the sake of Jesus Christ's wounds  
which thou didst weep to see bleeding  
for our wretchedness  
make us worthy to see thee,  
and, seeing thee, to rejoice  
in the glory that shall be.  
Amen.

The Star of Heaven  
that suckled the Lord  
hath rooted out the plague  
that the first father of men [Adam] planted.  
May that star now deign  
to control the constellations  
whose wars slay the people  
with the scar of loathsome death.

O glorious Star of the Sea,  
rescue us from the plague.  
Hear us, for thy Son  
honoreth thee by denying thee nothing.  
Save us, Jesus Christ,  
for whom thy mother prayeth to thee.

### **Compère: Scaramella**

Scaramella fa la galla,  
Con la scarpa e la stivala,  
Lo zombero, borombetta,  
Lo zombero, borombetta.

Scaramella goes to war,  
With his lance and his shield,  
The swashbuckler, "borombetta,"  
The swashbuckler, "borombetta."

### **Agricola: Je n'ay dueil**

Je n'ay dueil que de vous ne viegne;  
Mais quelque mal que je soustiegne,  
J'ay trop plus cher vivre en douleur  
Que souffrir que mon povre cuer  
A ung aultre que vous se tiengne.

I have no grief that does not come from you  
but whatsoever evil I endure  
I would but too much rather live in sorrow  
than allow my poor heart  
to attach itself to another than you

Car Dieu voulut tant vous parfaire  
Qu'il n'est afaire  
Qui sceust vos biens trop reclamer.

For God chose to make you so perfect  
that there is no circumstance  
in which your merits could be over-praised.

Et pour ce quoy qu'il en adviengne,  
Je vous supply qu'il vous souviengne  
De moy vostre humble serviteur  
Car pour amer vostre douceur  
Quelque chose qu'il me surviengne

And therefore, come what may,  
I beseech you to remember  
me your humble servant,  
for if I may love your sweetness  
whatever may befall me.

### **Josquin Desprez: O bone et dulcis Domine Jesus – Pater noster – Ave Maria**

O bone et dulcis domine Jesu credo firmiter et indubitanter quidquid sacrosancta credit ecclesia deprecor  
tuam pietatem et clementiam fac me vivere et mori in tua fide. Confiteor enim coram majestate tua, et  
sanctis angelis tuis quod servus tuus sum et quidquid mihi accedat tuus sum fidelis. Amen.

Tenor: Pater noster qui es in celis, sanctificetur nomen tuum adveniat regnum tuum, fiat voluntas tua  
sicut in celo et in terra. Panem nostrum quotidianum da nobis hodie et dimitte nobis debita nostra, sicut  
et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris, et ne nos inducas in tentationem sed libera nos a malo. Amen.

Bassus: Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. Benedicta tu in mulieribus et benedictus fructus  
ventris tui Jesus. Amen.

O good and sweet Lord Jesus, I believe firmly and undoubtingly whatever the most holy Church  
believes, I pray for the pity and mercy. Make me to live and die believing in thee, for I confess before thy  
majesty and thy holy angels that I am thy servant, and am thy faithful liege whatever may befall me.  
Amen.

Tenor: Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on  
earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our  
debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Bassus: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord be with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is  
the fruit of thy womb; Jesus. Amen.

### **Dufay: Balsamus et munda cera**

Balsamus et munda cera cum chrismatis unda conficiunt agnum, quem do tibi munere magnum fonte velut natum, per mystica sanctificatum: fulgura desursum depellit et omne malignum. Praegnans servatur, sine ve partus liberatur; portatus munda servat a fluctibus undae, peccatum frangit ut Christi sanguis et angit, dona refert dignis, virtutem destruit ignis, morte repentina servat Sathanaeque ruina. Si quis honoret eum, retinet ab hoste triumphum. Alleluia.

Balsam and wax with the pure water of chrisem make the lamb, that I give thee in his greatness as a gift, as if born of the fountain, sanctified by mysteries; it deflects lightning from above and everything evil. The pregnant woman is kept safe, she is delivered without the woe of birth; he who was carried chastely keeps us safe from the floods of water, even as Christ's blood breaks and torments sin; he returns gifts to the worthy, destroys the power of fire, and saves us from sudden death and Satan's ruin. If any honor him, he will triumph over his enemy. Alleluia.

### **Brumel: Rosa novum dans odorem**

Prima Pars

Rosa novum dans odorem  
Ad ornatum amplioem  
Regiae celestis

A rose giving a new scent  
for the greater embellishment  
of the heavenly palace,

Ab Aegypto revocatur,  
Illum sequi gratulatur,  
Cujus erat testis.

is summoned back from Egypt,  
and rejoices to follow Him  
of whom he was a witness.

Genus nequam et infaustum,  
Qui se fecit holocaustum,  
Afficit indigne

The wicked and accursed race  
treats him unworthily,  
who made himself a holocaust

Eum, quod Christum credidit,  
A quo tamen non recedit  
Passionis igne.

because he believed in Christ,  
from whom he did not retreat  
even in the fire of martyrdom.

Gaudet carne purpurata  
Flexo genu voce grata  
Pro Judaeis orans

He rejoices at his incarnadined flesh,  
on bended knee with pleasing voice  
praying for the Jews

Ut non illis imputetur,  
Quia gratis pateretur,  
Facinus ignorans.

that they should not be blamed  
because he was suffering without cause,  
being ignorant of crime.

## Secunda Pars

Constitutum in spe certa  
Certiorat rex aperta,  
    Quando Jesum vidit

The king gives notice of plain facts  
to one established in certain hope,  
when he saw Jesus

Stantem patris in virtute,  
Tunc ad petram pugnans tute  
    Parvulos allidit.

standing in his Father's virtue,  
then, fighting without danger, smashes  
the little ones on the rock.

Uva data torculari  
Vult pressuris maculari  
    Ne sit infecunda;

The grape given to the press  
wishes to be stained by pressing  
lest it be infertile;

Martyr optat petra teri  
Sciens munus adaugeri  
    Sanguinis in unda.

The martyr chooses to be crushed by stones  
knowing that the gift is increased  
by the flow of blood.

Nos, qui mundum per desertum  
Agitamur in incertum,  
    Stephanum sequamur,

Let us throughout the wilderness world  
are driven into uncharted land  
follow Stephen,

Ut securi tanto duce  
Trinitatis vera luce  
    Jugiter frugamur.

that, freed from care with so great a leader,  
we may constantly enjoy  
the true light of the Trinity.

Amen.

Amen.

### **Peñalosa: Versa est in luctum**

Versa est in luctum cithara mea et organum meum in vocem flentium. Parce mihi Domine: nihil enim sunt dies mei.

Cutis mea denigrata est super me, et ossa mea aruerunt. Utinam appenderentur peccata mea, quibus iram merui, et calamitas quam patior in statera.

My harp is turned to mourning, and my organ into the voice of them that weep. Spare me O Lord, for my days are nothing.

My skin is become black upon me, and my bones have been dried up. Oh that my sins, whereby I have deserved wrath, and the calamity that I suffer were weighed in a balance.

### **La Torre: Adorámoste, Señor**

Adorámoste, Señor,  
Dios y onbre Jhesu Christo,  
sacramento modo visto,  
universal Rredentor.

Let us adore you, Lord,  
Jesus Christ, god and man,  
the holy one made visible,  
universal redeemer.

Adorámoste, vitoria  
de la santa vera cruz,  
y el cuerpo lleno de luz  
que nos dexaste en memoria.

Let us adore you, victory  
of the holy true cross,  
and body full of light  
for us to remember you by.

Criatura y criador,  
Dios y onbre Jhesu Christo,  
sacramento modo visto,  
adorámoste, Señor.

Created and creator,  
Jesus Christ, god and man,  
the holy one made visible,  
let us adore you, Lord.

### **La Rue: Secretz regretz**

Secretz regretz de nature ennemis,  
Par grief tourmens mon penser ont transmis  
De tout plaisir en deul et des plaisance,  
Si de brief temps je n'ay resjoysance  
Par le secours de mes loyaux amis.

Secret regrets, hostile by nature,  
Though grievous torments have turned away my thought  
From all pleasure to mourning and misery,  
So that in a short time I have no pleasure  
From the help of all my loyal friends.

### **Josquin Desprez: In te, Domine, speravi**

In te, Domine, speravi  
Per trovar pietà in eterno.  
Ma in un tristo e oscuro inferno  
Fui e frustra laboravi.  
In te, Domine, speravi,  
In te, Domine.

In thee, O Lord, did I hope  
to find pity for evermore.  
But in a grim and dark hell  
I have been, and have laboured in vain.  
In thee, O Lord, did I hope,  
In thee, O Lord.

Rotto e al vento ogni speranza,  
Vegio il ciel voltarmi in pianto,  
Suspir, lacrime me avansa  
Del mio triste sperar tanto.  
Fui ferito, se non quanto  
Tribulando ad te clamavi:  
In te, Domine, speravi.

Broken and with all hope cast to the wind,  
I see the heaven turned for me into weeping.  
Sighs and tears are left to me  
from my great unhappy hope.  
I was wounded, save inasmuch  
As in my travail I called to thee:  
In thee, O Lord, did I hope.

### **Cornysh: Adieu! mes amours et mon désirs**

Adieu! mes amours et mon désirs,  
Je vous déprise de part amant;  
Et si je vous ai fait de plaisir,  
Si n'a patience commandement.

Farewell, my loves and desires,  
I now leave you as a lover;  
and if I have given you pleasure,  
have patience in your demands.

Pardonnez-moi très humblement,  
Je le demande;  
J'ai mis mon coeur à service loyalement.  
Hélas! J'ai bien perdu ma peine.

Pardon me very humbly,  
I demand it;  
I have put my heart in loyal service.  
Alas! I have truly wasted my effort.

### **King Henry VIII: Pastime with good company**

Pastime with good company  
I love and shall until I die.  
Gruch who lust, but none deny;  
So God be pleased, thus live will I;  
For my pastance, hunt, sing and dance; my heart is set  
All goodly sport for my comfort: who shall me let?

Youth must have some dalliance,  
Of good or ill some pastance;  
Company methinks then best  
All thoughts and fancies to digest,  
For idleness is chief mistress of vices all:  
Then who can say but mirth and play is best of all?

Company with honesty  
Is virtue, vices to flee;  
Company is good and ill  
But every man hath his free will.  
The best ensue, the worst eschew, my mind shall be;  
Virtue to use, vice to refuse, thus shall I use me.

### **Cornysh: Ah Robin**

Ah Robin, gentle Robin, tell me how my leman doth and thou shalt know of mine.  
My lady is unkind, i-wis, Alac, why is she so?

She lov'th another better than me and yet she will say no.

I cannot think such doubleness for I find women true; in faith my lady lov'th me well.  
She will change for no new.

**King Henry VIII: Helas madame**

Helas madame, celle que j'aime tant  
Souffrez que sois votre humble servant;  
Votre humble servant je serai à toujours,  
Et tant que je viv'rai aultr' n'aimerai que vous.

Alas, madam, whom I love so much  
Suffer that I be your humble servant:  
I shall be your humble servant for always,  
And as long as I live shall love no other but you.

**Cornysh: Ave Maria, mater Dei**

Ave Maria, mater Dei regina, caeli domina, mundi imperatrix inferni, miserere mei et totius populi Christiani; et ne permittas nos mortaliter peccare, sed tuam sanctissimam voluntatem adimplere. Amen.

Hail Mary, queen and mother of God, Empress of the world below, have mercy on me and the whole Christian people, and do not allow us to commit mortal sin, but to fulfill your holiest will. Amen.