



Another very successful Fringe production for Carpe Diem in 2000.

Scored for choir, soprano, tenor and baritone with piano accompaniment, this setting of the 13th century prayer meditating on the sorrows of the Virgin Mary in her station at the Cross is in ten sections.

Unusually, the work finishes with a setting of "In Paradisum", a triumphant hymn for choir, soprano and tenor. Although also a traditional text, In Paradisum is not normally appended to the Stabat Mater, however, it seemed a fitting close to the piece since it is a celebration of the assured entry into Heaven which Christ's sacrifice gives to all believers.

Stylistically, the music, in its mainly polyphonic nature, reflects the tumult of emotions expressed in the text, with the piano frequently taking its place as an integral part of the polyphony.

The piece initially fluctuates between major and minor keys, with the major gradually becoming more predominant. After a brief return to the minor in the final section, the work closes with an exultant Tierce de Picardie taking the piece from its opening in D minor to its close in F major.

Historically Stabat Mater was sung on the Friday before Palm Sunday. Also, shorter versions existed as psalm-like songs that were not part of the daily mass. By the 12th century the Stabat Mater had become one of the most influential literary and musical forms of the Middle Ages. However, largely because the texts were not taken from the Bible, the Stabat Mater was banned by the Council of Trent (1545-1563): it could be sung at religious celebrations but not during church services. However, in 1727 it was again included as part of the liturgy by the initiative of Pope Benedict XIII. Since then its popularity has continued to rise; over 400 composers have set the text to music.

Gillian Haycock – Soprano  
Neil Mudie – Baritone  
Peter Robinson – Tenor

Dorothy Moncrieff - Piano

Sopranos

Brid Cullen  
Betty Ganson  
Elinor Hay  
Elspeth Hay  
Margo Imrie  
Marilyn Maule  
Linda Milne  
Ann Mirtle  
Maureen McCue  
Kenna Orkney  
Linda Shipman  
Jan Stuart  
Audrey Westwaters

Tenors

Iain Hughes  
Alex Keddie  
Robert Milne  
David Mitchinson  
Keith Murray  
Bill Split

Altos

Karen Austin  
Cathie Brannigan  
Eunice Classon  
Jillian Davie  
Anne Easson  
Alison Goodwin  
Linda McMann  
Carol Mentiplay  
Christine Thomson

Basses

Peter Easson  
Duncan Robertson  
Charlie Sinclair  
Neil Thomson  
Alan Woolley

1. *Stabat Mater*  
-- Tenor, Choir
2. *Quis Est Homo*  
-- Soprano, Tenor
3. *Eja Mater, Fons Amoris*  
-- Choir
4. *Fac Ut Ardeat Cor Meum*  
-- Soli
5. *Juxta Crucem*  
-- Tenor, Choir
6. *Virgo Virginum Praeclara*  
-- Soprano, Baritone, Choir
7. *Fac Ut Portem*  
-- Tenor, Baritone, Choir
8. *Inflammatum et Accensum*  
-- Soprano, Tenor, Choir
9. *Quando Corpus Morietur*  
-- Soli
10. *In Paradisum*  
-- Soprano, Tenor, Choir

