



Cappella Pratensis

Royal Exequies: Music for the Funeral of Philip the Fair

Part 1: Backdrop

Lecture-Demonstration by M. Jennifer Bloxam
and the Singers of Cappella Pratensis

Intermission

Part 2: Royal Exequies

Procession to the Church

Responsorium: *Subvenite sancti Dei* Plainsong from the Office for the Dead

The Requiem Mass

Introitus: <i>Requiem eternam</i>	Pierre de la Rue (c.1460-1518)
Kyrie	Pierre de la Rue
Graduale: <i>Si ambulem</i>	Plainsong from the Mass for the Dead
Tractus: <i>Sicut cervus</i>	Pierre de la Rue
Offertorium: <i>Domine Jesu Christe</i>	Pierre de la Rue
Sanctus	Pierre de la Rue
Agnus Dei	Pierre de la Rue
Communio: <i>Lux eterna</i>	Pierre de la Rue
Requiescat in pace	Plainsong from the Mass for the Dead
Motet: <i>Delicta Juventutis</i>	Pierre de la Rue

Final Prayers for Absolution

Antiphon: <i>Aperite mihi</i>	Plainsong from the Burial Liturgy
Motet: <i>Absolve quesumus, Domine</i>	Josquin des Prez (c.1450/55-1521)

Saturday, February 22, 2014

8:00 p.m.

*Thompson Memorial Chapel
Williamstown, Massachusetts*

*Please turn off cell phones.
No photography or recording is permitted.*

Cappella Pratensis

Artistic leader: Stratton Bull

Superius: Stratton Bull, Andrew Hallock

Altus: Christopher Kale, Lior Leibovici

Tenor: Olivier Berten, Peter de Laurentiis

Bassus: Lionel Meunier, Pieter Stas

Project collaborator: M. Jennifer Bloxam, Professor of Music, Williams College
Fellow in Sacred Music, Worship, and the Arts, Yale Institute of Sacred Music

Cappella Pratensis

The Dutch-based vocal ensemble Cappella Pratensis – literally ‘Cappella *des prés*’ – champions the music of Josquin des Prez and the polyphonists of the 15th and 16th centuries. The group combines historically informed performance practice with inventive programmes and original interpretations based on scholarly research and artistic insight. As in Josquin’s time, the members of Cappella Pratensis perform from a central music stand, singing from the original mensural notation scored in a large choirbook. This approach, together with attention to the linguistic origin of the compositions and the modal system on which it is based, offers a unique perspective on the repertoire. Founded in 1987, Cappella Pratensis is currently under the artistic direction of singer and conductor Stratton Bull.

Besides regular appearances at concert venues in the Netherlands and Belgium, Cappella Pratensis has performed at leading international festivals and concert series throughout Europe, North America and Japan. From 2005 to 2007, the group was ensemble-in-residence at the Fondation Royaumont (France), where it gave courses, presented concerts and worked with distinguished musicians. Cappella Pratensis has also made a series of CD recordings that have met with critical acclaim and distinctions from the press (including the *Diapason d’Or* and the *Prix Choc*). In 2009 the ensemble released a DVD/CD production around the *Missa de Sancto Donatiano* by Jacob Obrecht, which included a reconstruction of the first performance of the Mass, filmed on location in Bruges together with substantial documentary material. This production was crowned with a *Diapason découverte* and the highest rating from *Classica* magazine. The CD *Vivat Leo! Music for a Medici Pope* (2010), with guest conductor Joshua Rifkin, received a *Diapason d’Or*, while the following CD (2012) features two of the oldest polyphonic settings of the Requiem, by Johannes Ockeghem and Pierre de la Rue. This month sees the release of a brand new recording, with music in celebration of the Annunciation, drawn from Vatican sources and featuring Josquin des Prez’s masterpiece, *Missa Ave maris stella*. As with the present program, this new CD is a collaboration with musicologist M. Jennifer Bloxam, Professor of Music at Williams College, and a 2013-14 Fellow in Sacred Music, Worship, and the Arts at the Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University.

Cappella Pratensis also passes on insights into vocal polyphony and performance from original notation – both among professionals and amateurs – through masterclasses, multi-media presentations, collaboration with institutions, an annual summer course as part of the Laus Polyphoniae festival in Antwerp, and training young singers within the group itself. The ensemble is a partner with the universities of Leuven and Oxford in the digitization and valorisation of all the brilliant musical sources made in the workshops of the early sixteenth-century music scribe Petrus Alamire.