

Descendit de cœlis

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius [Alto]

Medius [Tenor]

Sextus [Tenor]

Tenor [Baritone]

Contratenor [Bass]

Bassus [Bass]

De - scen - dit de cœ - - -

De - scen - dit de cœ - - lis, de cœ - - lis,

De - scen - - - dit

De - scen - dit

Detailed description: This is the first system of a six-part vocal setting. It features six staves: Superius (Alto), Medius (Tenor), Sextus (Tenor), Tenor (Baritone), Contratenor (Bass), and Bassus (Bass). The music is in G minor and 4/2 time. The lyrics are: 'De - scen - dit de cœ - - -', 'De - scen - dit de cœ - - lis, de cœ - - lis,', 'De - scen - - - dit', and 'De - scen - dit'.

10

De - scen - dit de cœ - - lis, de cœ - lis,

- - - lis, de cœ - lis, de - scen - dit de cœ -

de - scen - dit de cœ - lis, mis -

de - - - cœ - - - - - - - - - -

de cœ - - - - lis, de cœ - lis, de -

De - scen - - dit de cœ - lis, de - scen - dit de

Detailed description: This is the second system of the vocal setting. It continues the six-part texture. A box containing the number '10' is placed above the first staff. The lyrics are: 'De - scen - dit de cœ - - lis, de cœ - lis,', '- - - lis, de cœ - lis, de - scen - dit de cœ -', 'de - scen - dit de cœ - lis, mis -', 'de - - - cœ - - - - - - - - - -', 'de cœ - - - - lis, de cœ - lis, de -', and 'De - scen - - dit de cœ - lis, de - scen - dit de'.

mis - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, Pa - tris,
 - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, mis -
 - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, mis -
 - lis, mis - sus ab ar - ce Pa -
 - scen - dit de coe - lis, mis - sus ab
 coe - lis, de coe - lis, mis - sus ab ar - ce

mis - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, ab ar - ce Pa -
 - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, mis - sus ab ar - ce Pa -
 - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, ab ar - ce Pa - tris,
 - tris,
 ar - ce Pa - tris, mis - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, ab ar - ce Pa -
 Pa - tris, mis - sus ab ar - ce Pa - tris, ab ar - ce Pa -

- tris, In - tro - i - vit,

- tris, In - tro - i - vit per au - rem vir - gi - nis,

in - tro - i - vit, in - tro - i - vit per au - rem

in - tro - i - vit per

- tris, in - tro - i - vit per au - rem vir - gi - nis, per au - rem vir -

- tris, Pa - tris, in - tro - i - vit per au - rem vir - gi -

in - tro - i - vit per au - rem vir - gi - nis, per au - rem vir - gi -

in - tro - i - vit per au - rem vir - gi -

vir - gi - nis, per au - rem vir - gi - nis,

au - rem vir - gi - nis, in

gi - nis, per au - rem vir - gi -

- nis, per au - rem vir - gi - nis, per au - rem vir - gi -

40

- - - stram, in re - gi - o - nem no - stram, -
in re - gi - o - nem no - - - stram, no - - - - stram,
- stram, in re - gi - o - nem no - - - - stram, -
- - - - - stram, -
- stram, no - - - stram, In -
- o - - nem no - - - stram, no - - - - stram, -

-
In - du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re -
- In - du -
In - du - - tus sto - la pur -
- du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re - a, pur - pu - re - a,
- In - du - - tus sto - la pur -

In - du - tus sto - la, in -
 -a, in - du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re -
 - tus sto - la pur - pu - re - a, pur - pu - re -
 -
 in - du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re - - - - - - - - - a, in -
 - pu - re - a, in - du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re -

- du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re - - - a.
 - - - a, in - du - tus sto - - la pur - pu - re - a.
 -a, in - du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re - a.
 -a.
 - du - tus sto - la, in - du - tus sto - la pur - pu - re - a.
 - a, in - du - tus sto - - - la pur - pu - re - a.

2. pars.

Et ex - i - vit per au - re-am por - tam, et

Et ex - i - vit per au - re-am por - tam,

Et ex - i - vit per

Et ex - - - i - vit per au -

Et ex - i - vit per au - re-am

Et ex - i - vit per au - re - am, et ex - i - vit per

60

ex - i - vit per au - re-am por - tam, et ex - i - vit per

et ex - i - vit per au - re-am,

au - re-am por - tam, et ex - i - vit per au - re-am por -

-re - - - am por - - - -

por - tam, et ex - i - vit per au - re - am, et

au - re-am por - - - - tam, per au - re-am por -

au - re-am por - tam, Lux
 per au - re-am por - tam, Lux et de -
 -tam, por - tam, Lux et de - cus, et de -
 - - - tam, Lux, et
 per au - re - am por - tam,
 -tam, por - - tam,

70
 et de - - - - - cus, lux et de -
 -cus, et de - cus, lux et de - - cus u - ni - ver - sæ
 -cus, lux et de - - cus, et de - cus, u -
 de - - - - - cus
 Lux et de - cus, lux et de - cus
 Lux et de - - - -

-cus, u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun -
 fa - bri - cæ mun - di, u - ni - ver - sæ
 - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - - - - di, u -
 u - ni - ver - sæ
 u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - - - di, fa - bri -
 -cus u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - di, fa - bri -

80

di, u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - di, u -
 fa - bri - cæ, u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ, u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri -
 - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - di, un - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ
 fa - - - - - bri - - - - cæ
 - cæ mun - di, u - ni -
 - cæ mun - - - di, fa - bri - cæ mun - di,

- ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ, u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun -
 - cæ mun - - di, u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri -
 mun - di, u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ, u -
 mun - - - - - di.
 - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - di, u - ni - ver - sæ
 u - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ, u - ni -

90
 - - - di, fa - bri - cæ mun - - - di.
 - cæ mun - - - di, fa - bri - cæ mun - di.
 - ni - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - di, mun - - - di.
 fa - bri - cæ, fa - bri - cæ mun - - - di.
 - ver - sæ fa - bri - cæ mun - - - di.

He came down from heaven, sent from the Father's citadel; he entered through the Virgin's ear into our world, clad in a purple cloak, and departed through the golden gate, the light and glory of the whole edifice of the world.

Source: William Byrd, *Liber Secundus Sacrarum Cantionum* (London, 1591), nos.21-22.

Text: Matins respond, Christmas day, Sarum Rite

IV.11, 21: syllables misplaced to right of ligature. VI.13: syllable between 3 & 4. III.23.3: *vet*

IV.53.2-55: print has e-d ligature *cum opposita proprietate*, then *longa rest*. MS sources prolong the d and omit rest.

IV.87.2: *longa*. I, II, III, V, 73-90: variously *universe*, *fabrice*

Part of my complete edition of the published vocal works of William Byrd made available through the Choral Public Domain Library (<http://www.cpd.org>). For general editorial notes, please visit my user page at <http://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/User:DaveF>.

All scores are made freely available for downloading, printing, performing and recording. No conditions are attached, although it's always good to hear of any performances.

Please do not, without consulting me, make copies of my scores available through other websites - there's no need, first of all, as CPDL is always here, and secondly by doing so you put these editions beyond my control and so will miss out on any updates and revisions.