

Third prize at the 42nd International
Composition Contest "Guido d'Arezzo"
(first and second prizes not awarded)

Caecilia

Dedicated to Gary Graden
and S:t Jacobs Kammarkör,
with affection and gratitude

With three portraits of Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) & Bruno Bettinelli (1913-2004)

Text from
Passio Sanctae Caeciliae
Jacopo da Varagine
(XIII century)
and
Hymn to St. Cecilia
Wystan Hugh Auden
(1907-1973)

1. Ant. 1. g.

Antántibus órga-nis, * Caecí-li- a Dómino decan-tábat di-cens : Fí- at cor mé-um immacu-lá-tum, ut non confúndar. Eu ou a e.

Music by
Federico Incitti (1974)

Six voices
SAATBB

Duration
ca. 5' 45"

A ♩ = 80

T. B. ♩ 8 Can-tan - ti-bus or - ga - nis, — Cae - ci - li - a Do - mi - no de - can -

T. B. 5 ta - bat_ di-cens: Fi - at cor_ me - um im - ma - cu - la - tum, ut_ non_ con - fun - dar.

S. A. 10 Can-tan - ti-bus or - ga - nis, — Cae - ci - li - a Do - mi - no de - can -

T. 8 Can-tan - ti-bus or - ga - nis, — Do - mi - no de - can -

B. mp mf Cae - - - ci - - - li - - a, Cae - ci - -

S. A. 14 ta - bat_ di-cens: Fi - at cor_ me - um im - ma - cu - la - tum, ut_ non_ con - fun - dar.

T. 8 ta - bat_ di-cens: Fi - at cor_ me - um im - ma - cu - la - tum, ut_ non_ con - fun - dar.

B. mp mf Cae - - - ci - - - li - - a.

B Solenne

19

mf

S. In a gar-den sha - dy this ho - ly la - dy With re-ve-rent

A. In a gar-den ho - ly la - dy, in a gar-den ho - ly la - dy, re - ve-rent ca - dence,

T. In a gar-den ho - ly la - dy, in a gar-den ho - ly la - dy, re - ve-rent ca - dence,

B. In a gar-den ho - ly la - dy, in a gar-den this ho-ly la - dy, re - ve-rent ca - dence,

24

p

S. ca-dence Like a black swan, like a black swan as

A. ca - dence and sub - tle psalm, _____ *p* as

T. ca - dence and sub - tle psalm, black swan, like a black swan as

B. ca - dence and sub - tle psalm,

(1. Bruno Bettinelli, "Il bianco e dolce cigno")

28

Elegante

mf

S. death came on Poured forth her song in per-fect calm:

A. death came on Poured forth her song in per-fect calm:

T. death came on Poured forth her song in per-fect calm, calm:

B. death came on Poured forth her song in per-fect calm, calm:

32 C Onirico

S. *p* this vir - gin or - gan prayer, And

A. *p* this vir - gin or - gan prayer,

T. *p* this vir - gin *mf* Construct-ed an or-gan to en large her prayer,

B. *mf* And by o-cean's mar-gin this in-no-cent vir - gin or - gan prayer,

37

S. *f* notes tre - men-dous, *f* from her great en - gine *ff* Thun-dered, thun-dered out,

A. *mf* *f* notes tre - men-dous from her great en - gine *f* - dered - dered

T. *mf* *f* notes tre - men-dous from her great en - gine *f* - dered - dered

B. *mf* *f* notes tre - men-dous from her great en - gine *ff* Thun-dered *ff* Thun-dered

41

S. *f* *3* *mf* *3* *p* (echo) *3* thun-dered out on the Ro - man, on the Ro - man air, the Ro-man air.

A. *mf* *3* *mp* *3* out on the Ro - man air.

T. *mf* *3* *mp* *3* - dered Ro - man air.

B. *mf* *3* *mp* *3* Thun-dered Ro - man air.

4 **D** Estatico

44 *mf*

S. Blonde rose up ex - ci - ted,

A. Blonde A-phro-di-te ex - ci - ted,

T. Ex - ci - ted,

B. Ex - ci - ted, Moved to de- light_ by the me - lo - dy

p

p

p

p

(2. Benjamin Britten, "The Evening Primrose")

49 *mp* *mf*

S. White she rode quite na-ked

A. White as an or-chid quite na - ked

T. White na - - - ked

B. White na - - - ked In an oy-ster shell on top of the sea; top of see;

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

54 **E** Seducente

rit. molto

S. sounds so en - tran - cing the an - gels dan - cing Came out of their trance in - to

A. en - tran - cing dan - cing out of trance

T. an - gels dan - cing out of trance

B. an - gels dan - cing out of trance

a tempo

Infernale

S. 57 *mp*

time a - gain, Hell's a - - - bys - ses

A. *mf*

time, And a - round the Wick-ed in Hell's a - bys - ses, a - bys - ses

T. *mf*

time, And a - round the Wick-ed in Hell's a - bys - ses, a - bys - ses

B. *mp*

time, Hell's a - - - bys - ses

(half piece)

S. 60 *f* **F**

The huge flame eased their pain. Bles-sed Ce -

A. *sfp* *f*

Hell The huge flame flick-ered and eased their pain. Bles-sed Ce -

T. *mf* *sfp* *f*

in Hell The huge flame flick-ered and eased their pain. Ce -

B. *sfp* *mf*

Hell huge flame pain. Ce -

Visionario

mf *3*

S. 65 **G**

ci - lia,

A. *mp* *3*

ci - lia, ap - pear in vi - sions To all mu - si - cians, ap - pear and in - spire.

T. *3*

ci - li - a, all in - spire.

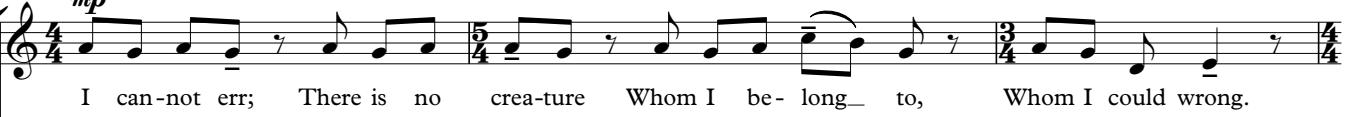
B. *3*

ci - li - a, all in - spire.

H $\text{♩} = 180$ Articolato, ipnotico

A. 

I can-not grow; I have no sha-dow To run a - way from, I on - ly play.

A. 

I can-not err; There is no crea-ture Whom I be - long to, Whom I could wrong.

T. 

I can-not err; There is no crea-ture Whom I be - long to, Whom I could wrong.

S. 

I am de -feat When it knows it Can now do no - thing By suf - fe - ring.

A. 

I am de -feat When it knows it Can now do no - thing By suf - fe - ring.

T. 

I am de -feat When it knows it Can now do no - thing By suf - fe - ring.

S. 

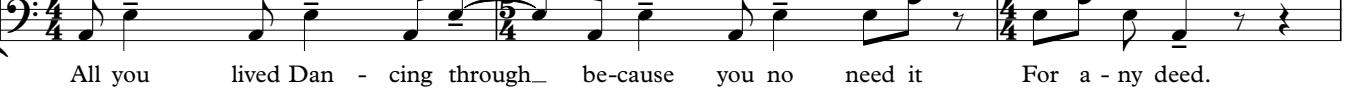
All you lived through Dan-cing be - cause you No lon-ger need_ it For a - ny deed.

A. 

All you lived through Dan-cing be - cause you No lon-ger need_ it For a - ny deed.

T. 

All you lived through Dan-cing be - cause you No lon-ger need_ it For a - ny deed.

B. 

All you lived Dan - cing through_ be-cause you no need it For a - ny deed.

$\text{♩} = 120$ Dolce

$\text{♩} = 72$ Sognante

7

81 **mf** **I**

S. I shell ne - ver be Dif - fe-rent. Love me. Bles-sed Ce - ci - lia,

A. I shell ne - ver be Dif - fe-rent. Love me. Bles-sed Ce - ci - lia, ap-pear in

T. Love me. Ce - ci - li -

B. Love me. Ce - ci - li -

86 **mf** **J** Incantato, free tempo (ca. $\text{♩} = 60$)

S. O cry cre - at-ed as - the bow of sin Is -

A. vi-sions To all mu - si-cians, ap - pear and in-spire. cry of sin,

T. a, all in - spire. cry of sin,

B. a, all in - spire. cry of sin,

91 **acc.** **rall. molto** $\text{♩} = 72$ **mp**

S. drawn a - cross_ our trem bling vi - o - lin. O

A. a - cross_ our trem bling vi - o - lin.

T. a - cross_ our trem bling vi - o - lin.

B. a - cross_ our trem bling vi - o - lin.

K Sospirante

95 Rassicurante

S. weep,— child, weep,— O weep a way,— weep a way the stain.

A. weep,— weep, weep,— way,— weep a way the stain.

T. O,— O, O, a— a — way stain. Ce —

B. O, O, O weep, weep the stain. Ce —

L

99

S. ci - lia,

A. ci - lia, ap - pear in vi-sions To all mu - si-cians, ap - pear and in -spire, all, in -

T. ci - lia - a, all mu - si - cians, in -

B. ci - lia - a, all mu - si - cians, in -

104

p (echo)

S. spire, and in spire: Trans-la-ted Daugh-ter, come down and

A. spire, and in - spire. Trans-la-ted Daugh-ter,

T. spire, Trans - la - - ted come, Com -

B. spire, Trans - la - - ted come, Com -

109

S. star-tle mor - tals _____ im-mor-tal fire.

A. Com-po-sing mor - tals im-mor-tal fire. im-mor-tal fire.

T. po - sing with, with im-mor-tal fire.

B. po - sing with fire.

Coda

114 *mf*

S. Fi - at cor - me - um im - ma - cu-la - tum, ut non con - fun - dar.

A. Fi - at cor - me - um im - ma - cu-la - tum, ut non con - fun - dar.

T. Fi - at cor - me - um im - ma - cu-la - tum, non con - fun - dar.

B. Fi - at cor - me - um im - ma - cu-la - tum, non con - fun - dar.

118 *mf*

S. Cae - ci - li - a, in - spire!

A. Cae - ci - li - a, in - - - spire!

T. Cae - ci - li - a, in - - - spire!

B. Cae - ci - li - a, in - - - spire!

From
Passio Sanctae Caeciliae
Jacopo da Varagine (XIII century)

*Cantantibus organis, Caecilia
Domino decantabat dicens:
Fiat cor meum immaculatum,
ut non confundar.*

Mentre gli organi suonavano,
Cecilia cantava al Signore dicendo:
“Rimanga immacolato il mio cuore,
affinché io non sia confusa.”

Hymn to St. Cecilia

Wystan Hugh Auden (1907-1973)

In a garden shady this holy lady
With reverent cadence and subtle psalm,
 Like a black swan as death came on
 Poured forth her song in perfect calm:
And by ocean's margin this innocent virgin
 Constructed an organ to enlarge her prayer,
And notes tremendous from her great engine
 Thundered out on the Roman air.

Blonde Aphrodite rose up excited,
 Moved to delight by the melody,
White as an orchid she rode quite naked
 In an oyster shell on top of the sea;
At sounds so entrancing the angels dancing
 Came out of their trance into time again,
 And around the wicked in Hell's abysses
The huge flame flickered and eased their pain.

Blessed Cecilia, appear in visions
To all musicians, appear and inspire.

I can not grow; / I have no shadow
 To run away from, / I only play.
I cannot err; / There is no creature
 Whom I belong to, / Whom I could wrong.
 I am defeat / When it knows it
 Can now do nothing / By suffering.
All you lived through, / Dancing because you
 No longer need it / For any deed.
 I shall never be Different. / Love me.

Blessed Cecilia, appear in visions
To all musicians, appear and inspire:

[...] O cry created as the bow of sin
 Is drawn across our trembling violin.
O weep, child, weep, O weep away the stain. [...]

Blessed Cecilia, appear in visions
To all musicians, appear and inspire:
Translated Daughter, come down and startle
 Composing mortals with immortal fire.

In un giardino ombroso questa santa signora
con cadenza riverente e recitando un tenue salmo,
come un cigno nero sopravvissuto alla morte
effondeva il suo canto in perfetta calma:
e ai confini dell'oceano questa vergine innocente
si costruì un organo per ampliare la sua preghiera,
e note tremende dal suo grande strumento
rimbombarono nell'aria di Roma.

La bionda Afrodite si levò eccitata,
deliziata dalla melodia,
candida come un'orchidea volò quasi nuda
nella conchiglia di un'ostrica al di sopra del mare;
al risuonare di accenti così seducenti gli angeli danzando
uscirono dal loro stato d'estasi e rientrarono nel tempo,
e tutt'intorno i demoni negli abissi infernali
fecero tremare le grandi fiamme e alleviarono la loro pena.

Santa Cecilia, appari come visione
a tutti i musicisti, appari loro e sii fonte ispirazione.

Non posso crescere; / non ho ombra
da cui fuggire, / posso solo suonare.
Non posso errare; / non vi è creatura
alla quale io appartengo, / alla quale posso far torto.
Io sono sconfitta / quando lo si conosce,
non posso però far null'altro / che soffrire.
Tutti voi che vivete, / danzando perché voi
di null'altro avete bisogno / per alcuna azione.
Mai io sarò diversa. / Amatemi.

Santa Cecilia, appari come visione
a tutti i musicisti, appari loro e sii fonte ispirazione.

[...] O pianto creato come l'arco del peccato
è tratto attraverso il nostro tremolante violino.
O piangi, creatura, piangi, cancella con le tue lacrime l'onta. [...]

Santa Cecilia, appari come visione
a tutti i musicisti, appari loro e sii fonte ispirazione.
figlia benedetta, scendi dal cielo e fai fremere
i compositori mortali col tuo fuoco immortale.

Coda

*Fiat cor meum immaculatum,
ut non confundar.
Caecilia, inspire!*

“Rimanga immacolato il mio cuore,
affinché io non sia confusa.”
Cecilia, sii fonte di ispirazione!