O ANTIQUI SANCTI

SSAA with Bass and Percussion



Music by Hildegard von Bingen

Arranged by **Michael Engelhardt**



About the Work

Hildegard von Bingen's *Ordo Virtutum (Play of the Virtues)* is possibly the first sacred musical morality play ever written (c. 1151). The plot is quite basic – Anima (Soul), the main character, finds herself in a cosmic tug-of-war between the Virtues and the Devil, and the forces of good eventually triumph in the end.

The Prophets and Patriarchs open the play by raising the question, "Who are these, who seem like clouds?" *O Antiqui Sancti* is the chorus that the Virtues boldly sing in response. Every note of the original chant melody is represented but it has been radically adapted, making use of contemporary harmony and groove.

Hildegard's historical footprint is worth noting. Born in Germany in 1098, she was a Benedictine abbess, a mystic, a visionary, a philosopher, and is credited with founding the field of natural science in Germany. And yes, she also composed quite a bit of music. In 2012, Pope Benedict XVI officially named her as a Doctor of the Catholic Church.

Special thanks to Donna Peterson Tallman and the Elmhurst College Women's Chorus for commissioning this work.

-Michael Engelhardt

O Antiqui Sancti from Ordo Virtutum

(Patriarche et Prophete Qui sunt hi, qui ut nubes?)

Virtutes

O antiqui sancti, quid admiramini in nobis? Verbum dei clarescit in forma hominis, et ideo fulgemus cum illo, edificantes membra sui pulchri corporis. (Patriarchs and Prophets:

Who are these, who seem like clouds?)

Virtues:

O ancient holy ones, why do you marvel at us? The Word of God gleams brightly within the human form, and therefore we shine with him, enhancing the parts of his beautiful body.

-St. Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)

About the Composer

Michael Engelhardt (b. 1974) is a contemporary choral artist whose mission is to bring choral music to larger audiences by creating music that appeals to the common listener. He frequently combines historical choral material with elements of pop, soul, and electronic music to create new (and sometimes daring) sounds. His works have been performed at Carnegie Hall, on national television and radio stations, ACDA National and Regional Conferences, and multiple All-State conferences.

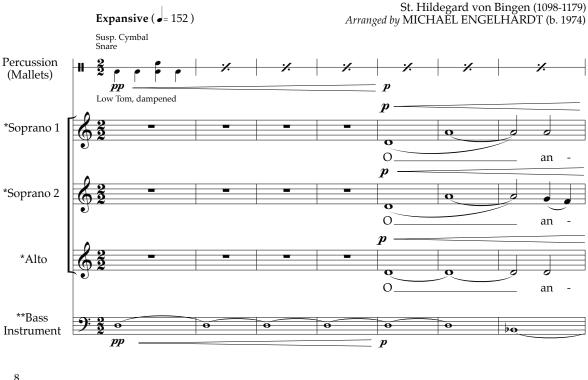
In line with his desire to bring "choir to the people," he founded a social singing movement called Beer Choir in 2014. The project is focused on bringing people of all skill levels together to sing in public spaces for fun, social connectivity, and artistic outlet. The organization has chapters in major cities across the United States.

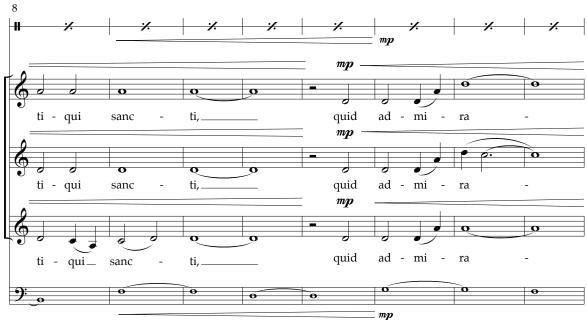
A native of Woodstock, Illinois, Michael holds degrees from Millikin University (Decatur, Illinois) and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Duration: Approx. 3:15

O Antiqui Sancti

from *Ordo Virtutum*SSAA with Bass and Percussion



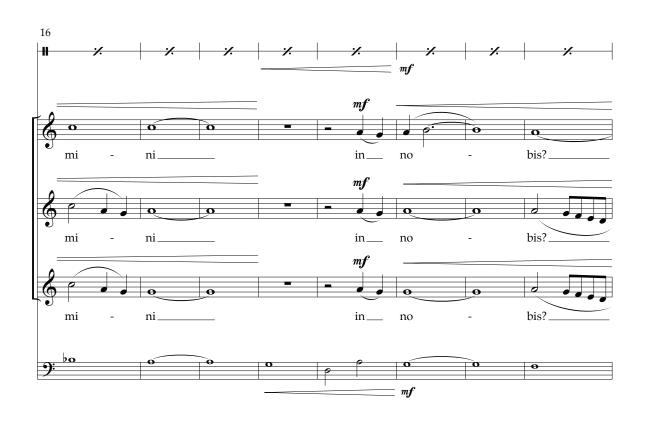


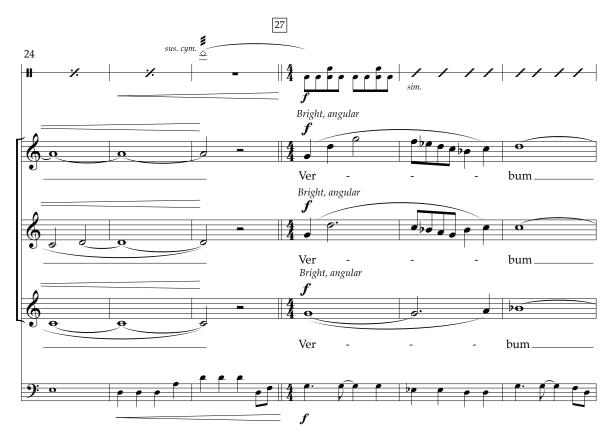
^{*} Straight tone, except when notated with *

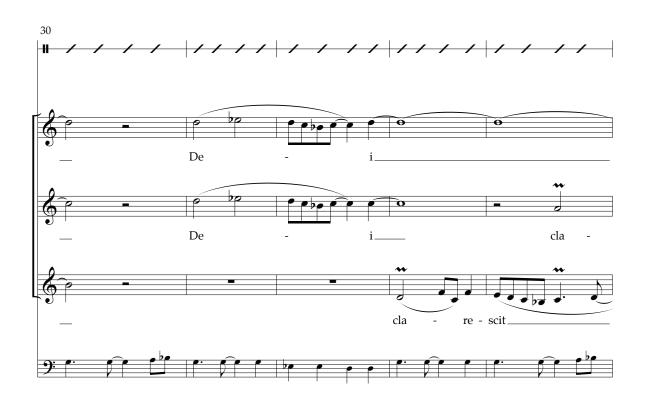
Separate percussion and bass parts are found on pages 13-16.

Copyright © 2017 by Walton Music Corporation
A Division of GIA Publications, Inc.
www.waltonmusic.com
International Copyright Secured Made in U.S.A. All rights reserved

^{**} Almost any bass instrument will work - synth, electric bass, organ, double bass, etc. It should sound one octave lower than written. If using a stringed instrument, re-articulate as necessary during long, sustained notes.

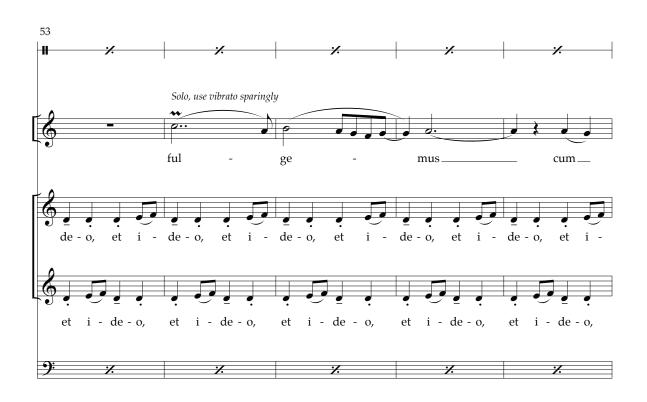


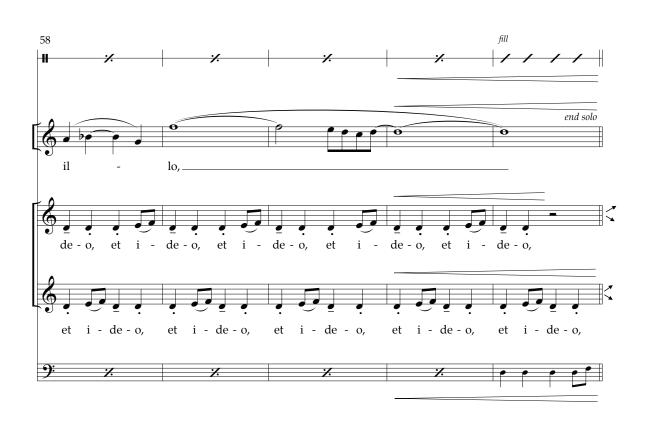




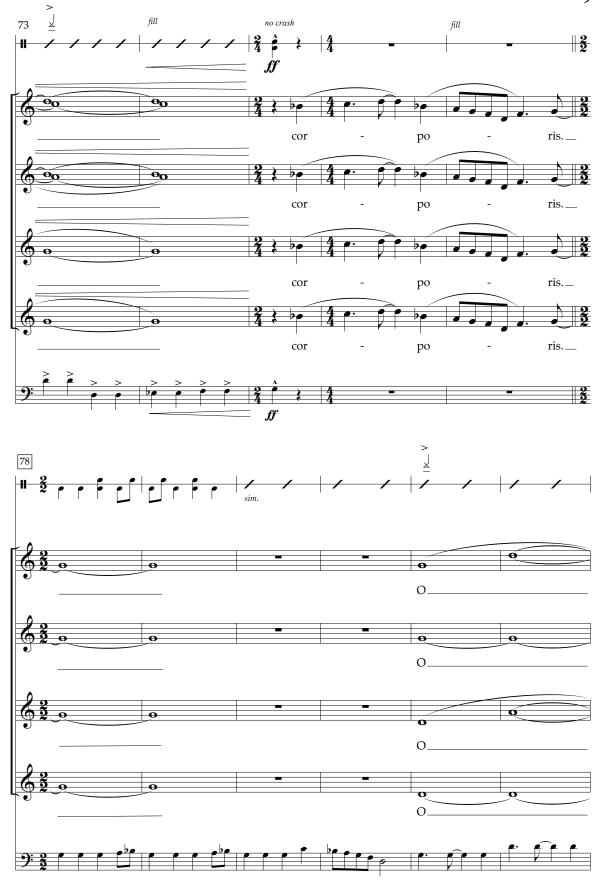






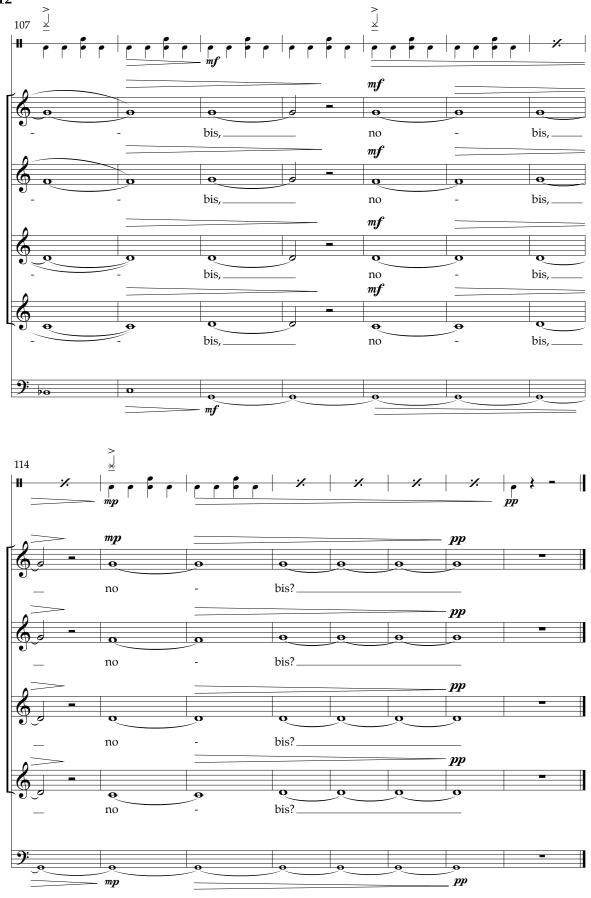








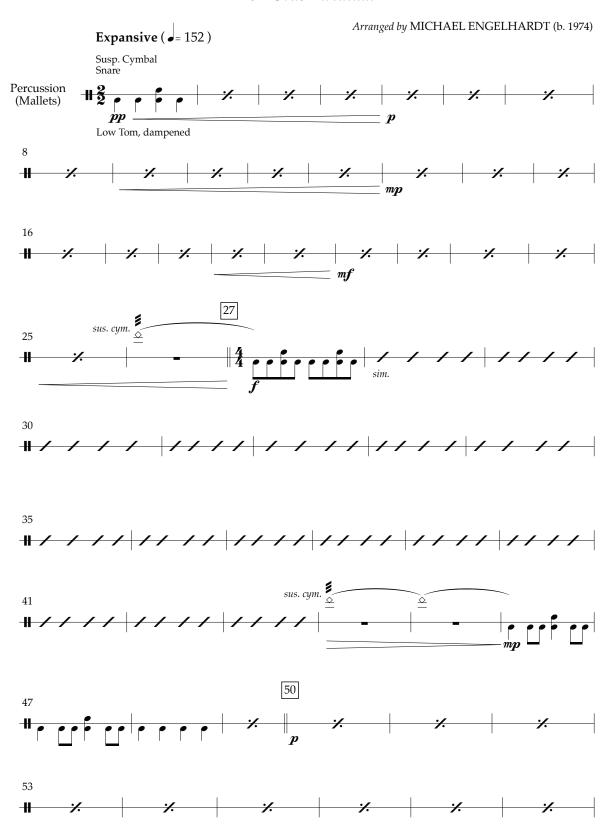




Percussion (Susp. Cym., Snare Low Tom)

O Antiqui Sancti

from Ordo Virtutum





O Antiqui Sancti

from Ordo Virtutum

Arranged by MICHAEL ENGELHARDT (b. 1974)



^{*} Almost any bass instrument will work - synth, electric bass, organ, double bass, etc. It should sound one octave lower than written. If using a stringed instrument, re-articulate as necessary during long, sustained notes.





