

Cantate 18

Our program today's theme is For The Wedding. With Valentine's day approaching, I thought it appropriate to feature music appropriate for the Sacrament of Marriage. I tried to find music that one would not usually hear. I hope you enjoy.

We begin with music appropriate for the pre-service. We will hear "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring", a choral version of one of Bach's most famous Chorale's sung by the choir of Salisbury Cathedral followed by Louis Vierne's Berceuse in A from his organ collection 24 pieces in Style Libre played by Peter Hurford on his CD Romantic Organ Music. Following that is Marcel Dupre's Motet, Ave Maria sung by the choir of Westminster Cathedral, London directed by James O'Donnell. Following that is Itzhak Perlman playing the famous Meditation from Jules Massenet's "Thais".

Track 1 (3:36 Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

Jesu, joy of man's desiring,
Holy wisdom, love most bright;
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, dying round Thy throne.
Through the way where hope is guiding,
Hark, what peaceful music rings;
Where the flock, in Thee confiding,
Drink of joy from deathless springs.
Theirs is beauty's fairest pleasure;
Theirs is wisdom's holiest treasure.
Thou dost ever lead Thine own
In the love of joys unknown.

Track 2 (3:53) Berceuse in A

Track 3 (2:36) Ave Maria

Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus, tecum,
benedicta tu in mulieribus
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.
Sancta Maria, sancta Maria,
Maria, ora pro nobis nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora, in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen! Amen!

Track 4 (4:49) Meditation from Thais

Next are a couple instrumental selections appropriate for processions. First Handel's Air from the Water Music Suite, then a Trumpet Voluntary by John Stanley played by Wynton Marsalis with the English Chamber Orchestra directed by Anthony Newman on the CD, Classic Wynton.

Track 5 (1:59) Handel, Air, Water Music

Track 6 (3:35) Trumpet Voluntary, John Stanley

Next we'll hear two selections sung by soprano Kiri Te Kanawa. First "Let the Bright Seraphim" from Handel's Oratorio, Samson then Pie Jesu from Faure's Requiem.

Track 7 (5:53) Let the Bright Seraphim

Let the bright Seraphim in burning row,
their loud uplifted angel trumpets blow:
Let the Cherubic host, in tuneful choirs,
touch their harps with golden wires

Track 8 (3:51) Pie Jesu

Pie Jesu, Pie Jesu
Pie Jesu, Pie Jesu
Qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona eis requiem
Dona eis requiem
Agnus Dei, Agnus Dei
Agnus Dei, Agnus Dei
Qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona eis requiem
Dona eis requiem
Sempiternam, sempiternam
requiem
Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy
You who take away the sins
of the world
Grant them peace
Grant them peace
Lamb of God, Lamb of God
Lamb of God, Lamb of God
You who take away the sins
of the world
Grant them peace
Grant them peace
Peace everlasting,
everlasting

Next, Barbara Bonney sings the "Alleluia" from Mozart's Exultate Jubilate

Track 9 (2:34) Alleluia

Again, this is Music for the Wedding. Now we hear the Westminster Cathedral Choir once again singing, this time, Louis Vierne's setting of Ave Maria

Track 10 (2:12) Ave Maria

Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus, tecum,
benedicta tu in mulieribus
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.
Sancta Maria, sancta Maria,
Maria, ora pro nobis nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora, in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen! Amen!

Next, from a CD entitled the Choral Music of Rene Clausen, we hear the composer conducting the Concordia College Choir in a setting of his ' Set Me as a Seal '

Track 11 (3:08) Set me as a Seal

Set me as a seal upon your heart,
as a seal upon your arm,
for love is strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love;
neither can the floods drown it.

Now, Maurice Durufle's "Ubi Caritas" from his four Motets based on Gregorian Chant themes sung by Michel Piquemal Ensemble.

Track 12 (2:06) Ubi Caritas

Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor
Exsultemus et in ipso jucundemur
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincere

Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est
Simul ergo cum in unum congregamur
Ne nos mente dividamur caveamus
Cessent jurgia maligna, cessent lites
Et in medio nostri sit Christus Deus

Ubi caritas et amor Deus ibi est
Simul quoque cum beatis videamus
Glorianter vultum tuum, Christe Deus
Gaudium quod est immensum atque probum
Seacula per infinita saeculorum

Translation from Latin to English

Where love and loving-kindness are together, God is always there
Since Christ's love has gathered us all together in one company,
Let us rejoice and take delight in Him, now and forever,
Let us now without any reserve or deception love one another.

Where love and loving-kindness are together, God is always there,
Therefore, whenever we are together,
Let us not be divided from each other in our feelings;
Let spite, quarreling and strife cease among us, and may Christ, who is God, be in our midst.

Where love and loving-kindness are together, God is always there
Bring us, in the company of the blessed, to behold Your great beauty,
To see Your face in glory, Christ our God,
There to possess heaven's peace and joy, Your truth and love,
Happiness of immeasurable excellence,
Through unending ages of ages, world without end.

Back to Westminster Cathedral, London Choir, directed by James O'Donnell singing Salve Regina by Giovanni Francesco Anerio from the CD Anerio: Requiem.

Track 13 (4:43) Salve Regina

Salve Regina,	Hail, O Queen,
Mater Misericordiae	Mother of mercy:
Vita dulcedo	our life, our sweetness,
et spes nostra salve	and our hope, hail.
Ad te clamamus,	To thee do we cry,
exsules filii Hevae	exiles; sons of Eve.
Ad te suspiramus,	To thee do we sigh,
gementes et flentes	moaning and weeping
In hac lacrimarum valle	in this valley of tears.
Eia, ergo, advocata nostra	Ah then, our Advocate,
illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte	those merciful eyes of thine turn towards us.
Et Iesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui	And Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb,
Nobis post hoc exsilium ostende	after this exile show unto us.
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis, Virgo Maria	O clement: O holy: O sweet Virgin Mary.

For the Wedding. Next three exciting pieces appropriate for the Recessional. First Theodore Dubois, "Toccata" from the CD "A Bride's Guide to Wedding Music". Then Jean Joseph Mouret's "Rondeau" played by William Pilcher on a CD entitled simply "Toccata". Finally Olivier Latry playing Widor's most famous Toccata from the Fifth Organ Symphony.

Track 14 (2:28) Toccata

Track 15 (1:40) Rondeau

Track 16 (5:53) Toccata

Thank you for listening again today and I hope you've enjoyed this edition of Cantate on the theme, For the Wedding. I leave you with this prayer, In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Amen.

O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in
Heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through
art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on
earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty,
and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for
evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*