

# Canticum Novum

for SATB choir and piano

6.5 min

Music by Melissa Dunphy

Text by Ryan Heller and Philip Barnes

2025

*Commissioned by Cindy Hager and Richard Metzger  
in honor of Chorus Austin's 60th Anniversary  
Ryan Heller, Artistic Director and Conductor*



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*O quam vita splendeat!*

O how my life should shine!

Let us each carry beauty's light,  
The beating heart of the world in one rhythm,  
Celebrating the wondrous harmony  
of many tongues united in song.

*Tellus Mater floruit,  
Et mirabilia generat;  
Mille flores tradidit  
Quo delectemur colore.*

Earth, our Mother, has flowered  
And produces wonderful things  
She has given a thousand blooms  
By whose color we are delighted.

We praise life, we praise love.  
May we always live in glorious light.

*Vivamus semper in luce  
Mundi tam mirabilis.*

Let us always live in the light  
Of a world that is so amazing.

*Carmen nostrum nunc cantandum!  
Gaudete!  
We sing a new song!*

Our song now must be sung!  
Rejoice!

---

English text by Ryan Heller  
Latin text and translation by Philip Barnes  
2024

## Latin Pronunciation

o kwam 'vi ta 'splen de at

'te lus 'ma ter 'flo ru it  
et mi ra 'bi li a 'dʒe ne rat  
'mi le 'flo res tra 'di dit  
kwə de lek 'te mur kə 'lə re

vi 'va mus 'sem per in 'lu tʃe  
'mun di tam mi 'ra bi lis

'kar men 'nos trum nun kə 'tan dum  
gau 'de te

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Piano-Vocal

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# Canticum Novum

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**Allegro** ♩=c.60

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Choir reduction

Piano

*pp*

*ff fanfare*

The first system of the score includes staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, Choir reduction, and Piano. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to approximately 60 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The piano part begins with a piano (*pp*) section and then transitions into a forte (*ff*) fanfare starting at measure 3.

7

Pno.

*pp* with growing excitement

This section shows a piano solo starting at measure 7. The tempo and key signature remain the same. The piano part is marked *pp* with the instruction 'with growing excitement'. The melody is written in the right hand, and the left hand provides harmonic support.

11

Pno.

This section continues the piano solo starting at measure 11. The tempo and key signature remain the same. The piano part features a more complex melodic line in the right hand, with the left hand continuing to provide harmonic support.

14

Pno.

*p*

This section continues the piano solo starting at measure 14. The tempo and key signature remain the same. The piano part is marked *p* (piano). The melody in the right hand becomes more rhythmic and driving, with the left hand providing a steady harmonic foundation.

**A**

18

Pno. *mp*

Pno. *mf*

**B**

26

S. *f*  
O quam\_ vi - ta splen - de - at! O quam\_

A. *f*  
O quam\_ vi - ta splen - de - at! O quam\_

T. *f*  
O quam\_ vi - ta splen - de - at!

B. *f*  
O quam\_ vi - ta splen - de - at!

Red. *f*

Pno. *f* *p* *f*

31

S. *p* vi - ta splen - de - at! O quam vi - ta,

A. *p* vi - ta splen - de - at! O quam vi - ta,

T. *p* O quam vi - ta splen - de - at! *mp* O

B. *p* O quam vi - ta splen - de - at! *mp* O

Red. *p*

Pno. *p* *f* *p*

36

S. *mf* O quam vi - ta splen - de - at! *f*

A. *mf* O quam vi - ta splen - de - at! *f*

T. *mf* quam vi - ta splen - de - at! *f*

B. *mf* quam vi - ta splen - de - at! *f*

Red. *mf* *f*

Pno. *mf* *f* *ff*

41 poco rit. . . . .

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

**C** a tempo

46 *mp*

S.   
Let us\_\_ each car - ry beaut - y's light,\_\_\_\_\_ the beat - ingheart of the world in one

A.   
Let us\_\_ each car - ry beaut - y's light,\_\_\_\_\_ the beat - ingheart of the world in one

T.   
Let us\_\_ each car - ry beaut - y's light,\_\_\_\_\_

B.   
Let us\_\_ each car - ry beaut - y's light,\_\_\_\_\_ the beat - ingheart of the world in one

Red.

Pno.

52

S. rhy - thm, the won - drous har-mo-ny of

A. rhy - thm, the won - drous har-mo-ny of

T. cel-e-brat-ing the won - drous har-mo-ny, the won-drous har-mo-ny

B. rhy - thm, cel-e-brat-ing the won - drous har-mo-ny, the won - drous har - mo-

Red.

Pno.

*mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

58

S. man - y tongues, of man - y tongues

A. man - y tongues, of man - y tongues u -

T. of man - y tongues u - nit - ed in

B. ny of man - - y tongues, of man - y

Red.

Pno.

*mp* *p* *mp* *p*

62 *mf*

S. u - nit - ed in song.

A. nit - ed in song, *mf* u - nit - ed in song.

T. song, *mf* u - nit - ed in song.

B. tongues *mf* u - nit - ed in song, u - nit - ed in song.

Red.

Pno.

66 **D** *f*

S. O quam vi - ta splen - de - at!

A. *f* O quam vi - ta splen - de - at!

T. *f* O quam vi - ta splen - de - at! O quam

B. *f* O quam vi - ta splen - de - at! O quam

Red. *f*

Pno. *f*

## Piano-Vocal

71

S. O quam vi - ta splen - de - at!

A. O quam vi - ta splen - de - at!

T. vi - ta splen - de - at! *mf* O quam

B. vi - ta splen - de - at! *mf* O quam

Red.

Pno. *mf*

75 *poco accel.* *f*

S. *mf* O quam vi - ta, *f* O quam vi - ta, vi - ta

A. *mf* O quam vi - ta, *f* O quam vi - ta, vi - ta

T. *f* vi - ta, O quam vi - ta vi - ta, vi - ta

B. *f* vi - ta, O quam vi - ta splen - de -

Red.

Pno. *mf* *f*

80 *rit.* - - - - - *a tempo*

S. *splen - de - at!*

A. *splen - - de - at!*

T. *splen - - de - at!*

B. *at!*

Red.

Pno. *ff*



84

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

87 **E** Moderato  $\text{♩} = c.63$

*mp*

S. Tel - lus Ma - ter flo - ru - it, et mi - ra -

A. *mp* Tel - lus Ma - ter flo - ru - it,

T. *mp* Tel - lus Ma - ter flo - ru - it, tel - lus Ma - ter flo - ru - it, et

B. *mp* Tel - lus

Red. *mp*

Pno. *fp* *mp*

95 *mp*

S. - bi - lia ge - ne - rat, mi - ra - bi - lia ge - ne - rat;

A. *mp* et mi - ra - bi - lia ge - ne - rat ge - ne -

T. *mp* mi - ra - bi - lia ge - ne - rat, mi - ra - bi - lia ge - ne -

B. *mp* Ma - ter flo - ru - it, et mi - ra - bi - lia ge - ne - rat, ge -

Red. *mp*

Pno. *mp*

**F****Poco piu mosso**  $\text{♩} = c.69$ 

102

*mf* *mp*

S. Mil - - le flo - res mil - - le flo -

A. -rat; Mil - - le flo - res mil - - le flo -

T. rat; Mil - - le flo - res, mil - - le

B. - ne - rat; Mil - - le flo - res, mil -

Red.

Pno.

110

*p*

S. res mil - - le flo - res, mil - - le flo - res,

A. -res tra - di - dit, mil - - le flo - res tra - di -

T. flo - res mil - le flo - res tra - di - dit, tra - di -

B. - le flo - res, mil - - le flo - res tra - di -

Red.

Pno.

118 *mf dolce* **G**

S. *mf dolce* mil - le flo - res, mil - le flo - res tra - di - dit, tra -

A. *mf dolce* -dit, mil - le flo - res, mil - le flo - res, mil -

T. *mf dolce* dit, mil - le flo - res tra - di - dit, mil le flo - res tra -

B. *mf dolce* dit, mil - le flo - res tra di - dit, tra -

Red. *mf dolce*

Pno. *mf dolce*

125 *mf* (enharmonic)

S. di - dit, quo

A. *mp* - le flo - res tra - di - dit, tra - di - dit *mf* quo

T. *mp* di - dit, mil - le flo - res tra - di - dit *mf* quo

B. *mp* di - dit, mil - le flo - res mil - le flo - res tra - di -

Red. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *mp* *mf*

132 rit. - - - - -

S. de - lec - te - mur, de - lec - te - mur co -

A. de - lec - te - - - - - mur co -

T. *mf* de - lec - te - mur, de - lec - te - mur co -

B. dit quo de - lec - te - mur co - lo - re, co -

Red.

Pno.

137 **H** Maestoso  $\text{♩} = c.63$

S. - lo - - - - - re. *f* *espress.*

A. - lo - - - re. We praise life, we praise love. May we al-ways live in

T. lo - - - - - re. *mf* *f* *espress.* We praise love. May we al-ways live in

B. lo - - - - - re. *mf* We praise love, we praise life,

Red.

Pno.

143

*f espress.* *mf*

S. We praise life, we praise love. May we al - ways live in

A. glo - ri - ous light, May we al - ways live in glo - ri - ous light,

T. glo - ri - ous light, live in glo - ri - ous light.

B. *f espress.* *mf* we praise life, we praise love. May we al - ways live in glo - ri - ous light,

Red. *f* *mf*

Pno. *f espress.*

149

S. light.

A. *mp* *p* live in light, in light.

T. *mp* *p* May we al - ways live in light.

B. *mp* *p* live in light. Vi -

Red. *mp* *p*

Pno. *mp*

155 **I**

*mp* *poco rit.* *mf*

S. Vi - va - mus sem-per in lu - ce mun - di

A. *p* *mp* *mf* Vi - va - mus sem-per in lu - ce, lu - ce mun - di

T. *mp* *mf* Vi - va - mus sem-per in lu - ce mun - di

B. *mp* *mf* va - mus sem-per in lu - ce, lu - ce, lu - ce mun - di

Red. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *p* *mp* *mf*

160 *f* *a tempo* *mp*

S. tam mi - ra - bi - lis, mi -

A. *f* *mp* tam mi - ra - bi - lis, mi -

T. *f* *mp* tam mi - ra - bi - lis, mi - ra - bi - lis, mi -

B. *f* *mp* tam mi - ra - bi - lis, mi -

Red. *f* *mp*

Pno. *f* *mp*

165 *rit.* *mf*

S. ra - bi - lis, mi - ra - bi - lis.

A. ra - bi - lis, mi - ra - bi - lis.

T. ra - bi - lis, mi - ra - bi - lis.

B. ra - bi - lis, mi - ra - bi - lis.

Red.

Pno.

**Joyous** ♩ = c.60

169 **J** *f*

S. Car-men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum!

A. Car - men nos - trum nunc can -

T. Car-men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum!

B. Car - men nos - trum nunc can -

Red.

Pno.

173

S. Car-men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum!

A. -tan - dum! Car - men nos - trum nunc can -

T. Car-men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum!

B. -tan - dum! Car - men nos - trum nunc can -

Red.

Pno.

177

S. car - men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum! Gau- *ff*

A. -tan - dum! Car - men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum! Gau- *ff*

T. car - men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum! Gau- *ff*

B. -tan - dum! Car - men nos - trum nunc can - tan - dum!

Red.

Pno.

181 **K**

S. *mf*  
de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau -

A. *mf*  
de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau -

T. *mf*  
de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau -

B. *ff*  
Gau - de - te! Gau - de - te! Gau -

Red. *ff* *mf*

Pno. *ff*

185

S. *ff* *f*  
de - te! We sing a new song! Gau -

A. *ff* *f*  
de - te! We sing a new song! Gau -

T. *ff* *f*  
de - te! We sing a new song! Gau -

B. *ff* *f*  
de - te! We sing a new song! Gau -

Red. *ff* *f*

Pno. *mf* *ff*

189

S. *ff*  
de - te! We sing a new song! A new song!

A. *ff*  
de - te! We sing a new song! A new song!

T. *ff*  
de - te! We sing a new song! A new song!

B. *ff*  
de - te! We sing a new song! A new song!

Red. *ff*

Pno. *f* *ff*

194

S. A new song!

A. A new song!

T. A new song!

B. A new song!

Red.

Pno. *fp* *fff*