

ANTONIO VIVALDI

Gloria

RV 589

VOCAL SCORE

Transcribed by S. Skye Donald

PREFACE

This edition of Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria* (RV 589) was prepared from a vocal score edited by Clayton J. Westermann, originally published by Edwin F. Kalmus & Co. in 1968. Mr. Westermann's source was the *Raccolta Renzo Giordano, Opere Sacre*, Tome 1. ff 90-129r from the Biblioteca Nazionale in Turin. According to Mr. Westermann's preface, "The full score, orchestra parts and vocal score are faithfully represented as in Vivaldi's original notation." Because of this, the 1968 vocal score is considered to be an "urtext" or scientific edition and has therefore been interpreted to be in the public domain in Canada by the copyright reviewers at the International Music Score Library Project (www.imslp.org). Accordingly, I have set out to create a crisp new imprint suitable for sharing and reproducing. Some changes to the piano reduction have been made for clarity or to better reflect the orchestral parts. Included in this edition is the oboe solo for "Domine Deus".

Items marked in brackets [] including trills, dynamics, and missing figured bass are editorial. Editorial slurs in "Laudamus te" are marked with a dotted line. Editorial marks are taken from several different print editions (including Mr. Westermann's) and recordings to represent common performance practice. A treble clef has been substituted for the original soprano, alto and tenor clefs.

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741) set the *Gloria* text a number of times. A catalogue of his works lists three separate pieces, one of which is now lost. Vivaldi almost certainly composed this *Gloria* (and the others) for the girls at *Ospedale della Pietà*, a home for abandoned children in Venice in the early 18th century. Rediscovered in late 1920's, this work has become the most popular of Vivaldi's vocal works and is part of the standard oratorio repertoire.

The text for this piece comes from the ancient Christian hymn *Gloria in excelsis Deo*. The hymn begins with the angel's song from Luke 2:14 and is written in the style of *psalmi idiotici* (private psalms – songs written by individuals in imitation of those found in scripture). It has been sung at Masses since the second century, though its current format and translation into Latin was developed in the fourth century.

S. Skye Donald
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TRANSLATION

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te,
benedicimus te,
adoramus te,
glorificamus te,
gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam
tuam,
Dominus Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili Unigenite, Jesu Christe,
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
 miserere nobis;
qui tollis peccata mundi,
 suscipe deprecationem nostram;
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
 miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,
tu solus Dominus,
tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe,
cum Sancto Spiritu,
in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
 have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The English translation of the *Gloria in excelsis* is from *The Roman Missal* © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The slash marks (/) in the English translation at the beginning of each movement represent line breaks in the hymn.