

Music through the Microscope



William Byrd

Ave verum corpus

A musical analysis

Music through the Microscope Volume 8

Illustrations

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The singular voice



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About this document

This document is a detailed analysis of *Ave verum corpus* by William Byrd.

The purpose of this analysis is to aid the study of the work by isolating aspects of structure, melody and melodic development, harmony, texture, rhythm, etc.

This study is not a critique of the composer and does not seek to explore the cultural, contextual or historical aspects of the music.

This book is illustrated by animated scores, for which there are hyperlinks within the text of this book, located by image illustrations. To access these resources on the internet then please visit either:

http://www.nickredfern.co.uk/ave_verum_corpus.html

or via the William Byrd Ave verum corpus YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8gLwjg2ETCq4zsOXYgJrzq>

[?guided help flow=3](#)

If some of the image illustrations appear too small, then a free copy of the illustrations and a variety of scores and resources can be downloaded as PDF files from:

http://www.nickredfern.co.uk/byrd_ave_verum_corpus.html

YouTube

Further resources will be available at the YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8gLwjg2ETCq4zsOXYgJrzq>

[?guided help flow=3](#)

Sources

The source of this analysis is a Sibelius transcription made from a number of sources at IMSLP:

[http://imslp.org/wiki/Ave_verum_corpus_\(Byrd,_William\)](http://imslp.org/wiki/Ave_verum_corpus_(Byrd,_William))

The text has been excluded from many illustrations for visual clarity.

Acknowledgements

Gimell Records & The Tallis Scholars

I would like to offer my most sincere thanks Steve Smith and Gimell Records for allowing the use of their recording of Ave verum corpus, sung by the magnificent Tallis Scholars, directed by Peter Phillips. This recording has been used to illustrate this document and without their cooperation the completion of this book would not be possible. Nick Redfern

The recording of Ave verum corpus is part of *The Tallis Scholars sing William Byrd* and is available in many audio formats, including CD.



THE TALLIS SCHOLARS SING WILLIAM BYRD

Gimell

The Tallis Scholars sing William Byrd

<https://www.gimell.com/cdgim208-tallis-scholars-william-by>

The Tallis Scholars sing William Byrd at Hyperion, CD or download

http://www.hyperion-records.co.uk/dc.asp?dc=D_CDGIM208

Gimell

<http://www.gimell.com/>

The Tallis Scholars

<http://www.thetallisscholars.co.uk/>

Ave verum corpus: complete animated score

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DI6Tv6AYtTY&feature=youtu.be>

Rhythmic convention

The note values are in half the value of the original, which is in keeping with modern publications of the work.

Video: Texture bar 1 to 4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWMj7OOcdq0&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is common time (indicated by 'C'). The lyrics are written below each staff, corresponding to the notes. The first staff starts with 'A - ve' and ends with 'pus,'. The second staff continues with 've - rum cor - - pus,'. The third staff continues with 'rum cor - - pus,'. The fourth staff starts with 'A - ve' and ends with 'pus,'. The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are also slurs and grace notes.

Figure 1 Texture bar 1 to 4



Figure 2 Part spacing bar1 to 4

Video: Texture bar 5 to 8

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRvE-9ak7fU&feature=youtu.be>

5

na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
na - tum - de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -

Figure 3 Texture bar 5 to 8

5

Figure 4 Part spacing bar 5 to 8

Video: Texture bar 8 to 10

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U17s4XqrN0U&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves of music, labeled 8 through 11. Each staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time signature. The lyrics are: ne, ve - re pas - sum, im - ne, ve - re pas - sum, im - ne, ve - re pas - sum, im - ne, ve - re pas - sum, im - . The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure 8 starts with a quarter note 'ne,' followed by a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 've,' a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 're,' a sixteenth note 'pas,' a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 'sum,' and a sixteenth note 'im.' Measure 9 starts with a quarter note 'ne,' followed by a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 've,' a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 're,' a sixteenth note 'pas,' a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 'sum,' and a sixteenth note 'im.' Measure 10 starts with a quarter note 'ne,' followed by a sixteenth note 've,' a sixteenth note 're,' a sixteenth note 'pas,' a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 'sum,' and a sixteenth note 'im.' Measure 11 starts with a quarter note 'ne,' followed by a sixteenth note 've,' a sixteenth note 're,' a sixteenth note 'pas,' a sixteenth note rest, a sixteenth note 'sum,' and a sixteenth note 'im.'

Figure 5 Texture bar 8 to 10

Video: Texture bar 10 to 12

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2kT_YMh8Qk&feature=youtu.be

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef, the second in treble clef, the third in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The time signature changes from common time (indicated by '10') to 8/8 (indicated by '8'). The lyrics are: 'sum, im - mo - la - tum in' (repeated), 'sum, im - mo - la - tum', 'sum, im - mo - la - tum in cru -', and 'sum, im - mo - la - tum in'. The music includes various note values (eighth and sixteenth notes) and rests.

Figure 6 Texture bar 10 to 12

Video: Texture bar 10 to 15

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DqgsLUSx_Ro&feature=youtu.be

10

sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi- ne: Cu

sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru-ce proho - mi - ne: Cu

sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu

sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi- ne: Cu

Figure 7 Texture bar 10 to 15

10

13

Figure 8 Texture bar 10 to 15

Video: Texture bar 15 to 18

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xIT1ITmNNhU&feature=youtu.be>

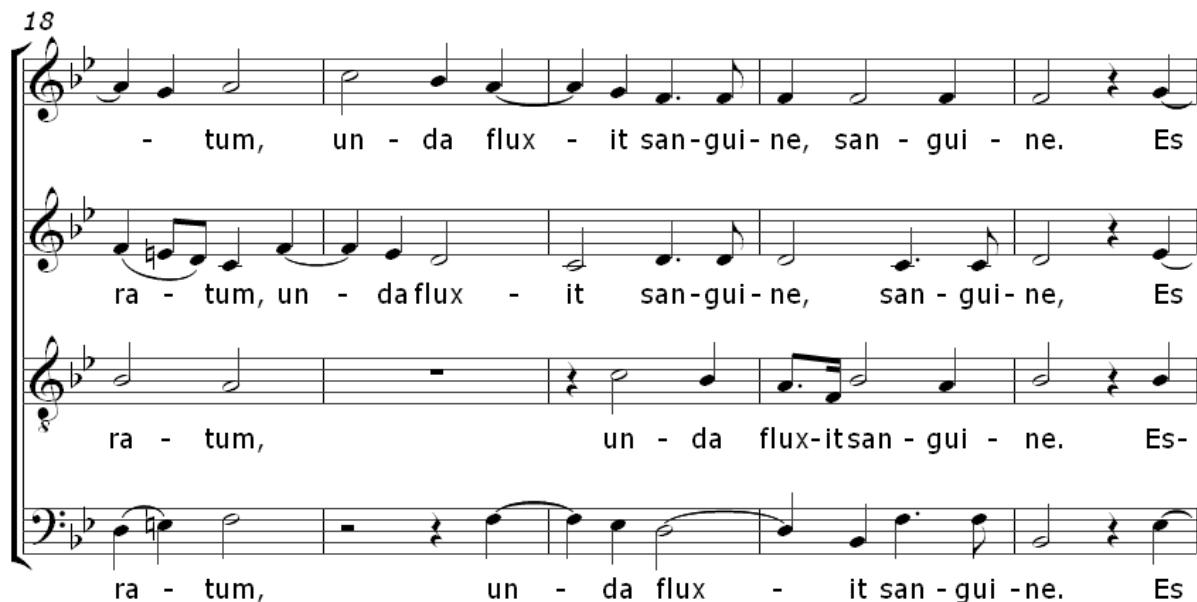
The musical score consists of four staves of music. The first three staves are in treble clef, and the fourth staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is common time. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The lyrics are written below each staff, corresponding to the notes. The lyrics are: "ne: Cu - ius la - tus per - fo - ra - tum," repeated three times, followed by "un-". The music features various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure 15 starts with a quarter note 'ne' on the first staff. Measures 16-18 show a repeating pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Measure 19 begins with a quarter note 'ne' on the bass staff.

Figure 9 Texture bar 15 to 18

Video: Texture bar 18 to 22

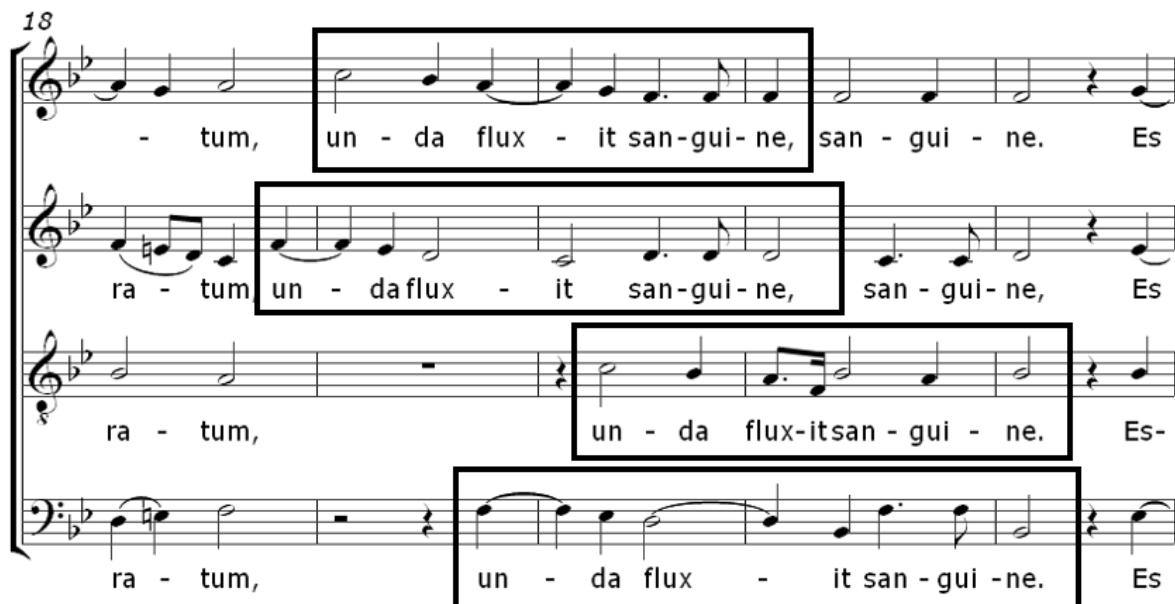
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzreaPoZ_YQ&feature=youtu.be

18



- tum, un - da flux - it san-gui- ne, san - gui - ne. Es
 ra - tum, un - da flux - it san-gui- ne, san - gui - ne, Es
 ra - tum, un - da flux-itsan - gui - ne. Es-
 ra - tum, un - da flux - it san - gui - ne. Es

Figure 10 Texture bar 18 to 22



- tum, un - da flux - it san-gui- ne, san - gui - ne. Es
 ra - tum, un - da flux - it san-gui- ne, san - gui - ne, Es
 ra - tum, un - da flux-itsan - gui - ne. Es-
 ra - tum, un - da flux - it san - gui - ne. Es

Figure 11 Texture & canonic imitation bar 18 to 22

Video: Texture bar 22 to 26

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7buqnoBr3jU&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 22 to 26. The score consists of four staves of music in G clef, B-flat key signature, and common time. The lyrics are:

ne. Es - to no - bis prea - gus - ta - tum in mor - tis
ne. Es - to no - bis prea - gus - ta - tum in mor - tis in
ne. Es - to no - bis prea-gus - ta - tum in mor - tis
ne. Es - to no - bis prea - gus - ta - tum in mor - tis
in mor -

Figure 12 Texture bar 22 to 26

Video: Texture bar 25 to 28

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ojsd7bC_sV4&feature=youtu.be

Musical score for bars 25 to 28. The score consists of four staves of music in G clef, B-flat key signature, and common time. The lyrics are:

ta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne: O
ta - tum in mor - tis in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne:
ta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne:
ta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne:
in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne:

Figure 13 Texture bar 25 to 28

Section B

Video: Texture bar 28 to 32

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2X7C0X7i4nY&feature=youtu.be>

u.be

Musical score for bar 28 to 32. The score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The lyrics are as follows:

- mi - ne. O dul - cis, O pi - e, O Ie - su
a - mi-ne. O dul - cis, O pi - e, (b) O Ie -
- mi - ne. O dul - cis, O pi - e, -
- mi - ne. O dul - cis, O pi - e, o Ie - su

Figure 14 Texture & setting bar 28 to 32

Musical score for bar 28, beat 4, to 31. The score shows two staves: treble and bass. The piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords.

Figure 15 Texture & spacing bar 28, beat 4, to 31



Figure 16 Texture & spacing bar 32 to 35



Figure 17 Tenor bar 33 to 35

Video: Texture bar 31 to 35

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSwdb2TxmAE&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature changes from one flat to one sharp. The lyrics are written below each staff, corresponding to the notes. The score shows a complex polyphonic texture with various note heads and stems.

31

e, O Ie - su fi - li Ma-ri - ae.
pi - e, O Ie - su fi - li Ma-ri - ae.
pi - e, O Ie - su fi - li Ma-ri - ae.
pi - e, o Ie - su fi - li Ma - ri - ae.

Figure 18 Polyphonic texture bar 31 to 35

Video: Texture bar 36 to 37

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjfJMbMFkWI&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bar 36, featuring four staves of music. The top staff uses a treble clef, the second and third staves use a treble clef with a 'G' sharp sign, and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The lyrics are: mi - se - re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re - me - i, and mi - se - re - re.

Figure 19 Texture bar 36 to 37

Video: Texture bar 36 to 39

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WD-wtJUa0S0&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is soprano, the second is alto, the third is tenor, and the bottom is bass. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The vocal parts sing a repeating motif of "mi - se - re - re" followed by "me" and a short melodic phrase. The bass staff provides harmonic support with sustained notes and occasional eighth-note patterns. The vocal parts also include some eighth-note patterns.

36

mi - se - re - re me - i,

mi se - re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re, mi - se - re - re

mi se - re - re - me - i, mi - se - re - re me

mi - se - re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re

Figure 20 Texture Miserere Motif bar 36 to 39

Video: Texture bar 40 to 43

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2JTP3-BBI&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The time signature is common time. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Measure 40 starts with a dotted half note followed by eighth notes. The lyrics "mi - se-re-re" are written below the notes. Measure 41 continues with eighth notes, and the lyrics "me - i, me - i, me" are written below. Measure 42 begins with a dotted half note followed by eighth notes, and the lyrics "mi - se - re - re me - i." are written below. Measure 43 starts with a dotted half note followed by eighth notes, and the lyrics "me - i, mi - se-re - re me - i." are written below. The score is annotated with several boxes highlighting specific melodic patterns and lyrics. A large rectangular box covers the first two measures of each of the three upper staves. Another large rectangular box covers the third measure of each of the three upper staves. A smaller rectangular box highlights the beginning of measure 43 on the bass staff. A circled '1' is placed above the first measure of the top staff. A circled '2' is placed above the third measure of the top staff.

Figure 21 Texture Miserere Motif bar 40 to 43

Video: Texture bar 44 to 47

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnUtqo-rnn0&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The time signature is common time. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Measure 44 starts with a single note on each staff, followed by a fermata. Measure 45 begins with a note on the first staff, followed by a note on the second staff, then a measure of eighth notes on the third staff, and a measure of eighth notes on the fourth staff. Measures 46 and 47 show more complex patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes across the staves. The lyrics "i.", "A", and "men." are written below the staves, corresponding to the notes. Measure 44 has a fermata over the notes. Measure 45 has a fermata over the notes on the second staff. Measures 46 and 47 have fermatas over the notes on the third staff.

Figure 22 Texture bar 44 to 47

Harmony & tonality

Section A

Video: Harmony bar 1 to 4 reduction

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIK4a_6Krvs&feature=youtu.be

A musical score for piano in G minor (two sharps) and C major (one sharp). The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The key signature changes at the beginning of each bar. The harmonic analysis below the score indicates the following progression:

I	V	IV ^b	V7 (IC - V)	I [♯]
---	---	-----------------	-------------	----------------

Figure 23 Harmony bar 1 to 4

A musical score for piano in G minor (two sharps) and C major (one sharp). The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The harmonic analysis below the score indicates the following progression:

I	V	IV ^b	V7 (IC - V)	I [♯]
---	---	-----------------	-------------	----------------

Annotations above the score indicate a two-measure phrase (measures 2 and 3) and a harmonic annotation below the score highlights measure 3, bar 4, with a circled '1' indicating the first note of the measure.

Figure 24 Harmonic annotation bar 1 to 4

Video: Harmony bar 5 to 8 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X2nT44x31B0&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 5 to 8. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The annotations show the progression: B-flat major (bar 5), followed by a bracket labeled '1' covering bars 6 and 7 (labeled IC V I and IC V I respectively), G minor (bar 8), and finally B-flat major again (bar 9). A circled '2' is positioned below the bass staff under the first note of bar 8.

5 B_b major
V I IC V I IC V I V# IV

1
3

2

Figure 25 Harmonic annotation bar 5 to 8

Video: Harmony bar 9 to 12 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svXioqGnI60&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 9 to 12. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The annotations show the progression: B-flat major (bar 9), followed by a bracket labeled '1' covering bars 10 and 11 (labeled I and Ib respectively, with III V I underneath), F major (bar 12), and finally G minor (bar 13). A circled '2' is positioned below the bass staff under the first note of bar 12.

9 B_b major
IV Ib IV I Ib III V I I IV IV

1
F major
G minor

2

Figure 26 Harmonic annotation bar 9 to 12

Video: Harmony bar 13 to 15

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5_t34yF8BsA&feature=youtu.be

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef, the second in alto clef, the third in tenor clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The time signature is common time. The vocal line starts with "cru - ce" followed by a measure of rests. The lyrics continue with "pro ho - mi - ne:" and "Cu -". This pattern repeats three more times, ending with "Cu -". The measure numbers 13 and 15 are indicated above the staff.

13

cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu -

in cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu -

- ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu -

cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu -

Figure 27 Harmony bar 13 to 15

Video: Harmony bar 13 to 16 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nY5DSxLDM1c&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 13 to 16. The score is in G minor (indicated by a key signature of one flat). The harmonic analysis is as follows:

- Bar 13: G minor (I)
- Bar 14: G minor (VII)
- Bar 15: G minor (III)
- Bar 16: G minor (IVb) - circled with a red circle labeled '2'
- Bar 17: F major (V)
- Bar 18: F major (V)
- Bar 19: F major (I)

Chords are indicated below each measure: I, VII, III, IVb, V, V, I.

Figure 28 Harmonic annotation bar 13 to 16

Video: Harmony bar 16 to 18 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvIhspvhXs0&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 16 to 18. The score is in F major (indicated by a key signature of one sharp). The harmonic analysis is as follows:

- Bar 16: F major (V)
- Bar 17: F major (I)
- Bar 18: F major (V)
- Bar 19: F major (IV)
- Bar 20: F major (IIIb)
- Bar 21: F major (IV7b)
- Bar 22: F major (VII)
- Bar 23: F major (I)

Chords are indicated below each measure: V, I, V, IV, IIIb, IV7b, VII, I.

Figure 29 Harmonic annotation bar 16 to 18

Video: Harmony bar 19 to 22 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiUeVHkeu0k&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 19 to 22 in B-flat major. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a sequence of chords: V, IIb, Ib, V, IIb, Ib, III, I, V, I, IV. The bottom staff shows bass notes corresponding to these chords. Two specific notes are circled and labeled: '1' and '2'. The label '(V IIb Ib)' is placed above the first three notes of the top staff, and '(IIIb)' is placed below the third note of the bottom staff.

Figure 30 Harmonic annotation bar 19 to 22

Video: Harmony bar 22 to 25 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=am6gKMtc6xc&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 22 to 25. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a sequence of chords: I, IV, IV, II, V, IV, II, I, V. Above the first four chords, a bracket labeled '1' spans them, indicating a harmonic section. The bottom staff shows bass notes corresponding to these chords. The top staff is annotated with 'B-flat major' above the first four chords and 'C major' above the last five chords. The bottom staff is annotated with 'B-flat major' above the last five chords.

Figure 31 Harmonic annotation bar 22 to 25

Video: Harmony bar 26 to 28 reduction

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gv-](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gv-OssPnkEk&feature=youtu.be)

[OssPnkEk&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gv-OssPnkEk&feature=youtu.be)

A musical score for piano in G minor (indicated by a treble clef and a B-flat key signature). The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a bass line with notes in the bass clef. The bottom staff shows a treble line with notes in the treble clef. The score is annotated with Roman numerals below the notes and brackets above them. Brackets labeled '1', '2', and '3' group specific chords. Below the first bracket, 'IIb' is written under a note, followed by 'II', 'IIc', 'VI', 'Ic', 'V', 'V', 'V7', and 'I'. The second bracket groups 'V' and 'V'. The third bracket groups 'V7' and 'I'.

Figure 32 Harmonic annotation bar 26 to 28

Section B

Video: Harmony bar 29 to 31 reduction

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sULUyRj2ClQ&feature=yout
u.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sULUyRj2ClQ&feature=youtu.be)

A musical score for piano in G minor (indicated by a treble clef and a B-flat key signature). The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a bass line with notes in the bass clef. The bottom staff shows a treble line with notes in the treble clef. The score is annotated with Roman numerals below the notes and brackets above them. A bracket labeled 'G minor' is positioned above the first measure. Brackets labeled '1' and '2' group specific chords. Below the first bracket, 'I' is written under a note, followed by 'IV', 'I \sharp ', 'I', 'V \sharp ', and 'I \sharp '. The second bracket groups 'V \sharp ' and 'I \sharp '.

Figure 33 Harmonic annotation bar 29 to 31

, D to C.

Video: Harmony bar 32 to 35 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BeD3Ddap0qU&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 32 to 35. The score consists of two staves (treble and bass) in common time, with a key signature of one flat. The music is divided into five groups (1 through 5) by brackets above the notes. Below each group, Roman numerals indicate the harmonic function:

- Group 1: I
- Group 2: VIIb IVc I VII
- Group 3: VII
- Group 4: I
- Group 5: IVb V#

Figure 34 Harmonic annotation bar 32 to 35

Video: Harmony bar 36 to 37 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8F6vMZOtr8&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bars 36 to 37. The score consists of two staves (treble and bass) in common time, with a key signature of one flat. The music is divided into two groups by vertical lines. Below each group, Roman numerals indicate the harmonic function. A circled '1' highlights a specific note in the bass staff.

- Group 1: I Ib II I
- Group 2: V# VI Ic

Figure 35 Harmonic annotation bar 36 to 37

Video: Harmony bar 38 to 40 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jep0yA3YTGQ&feature=youtu.be>

A musical score for piano in G minor (indicated by a treble clef and a single flat in the key signature). The score consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The time signature is common time (indicated by a 'C'). The score shows the following harmonic progression:

- Bar 38: IV
- Bar 39 (Annotation 1): V[#](7)
- Bar 39 (Annotation 2): I
- Bar 39 (Annotation 3): V^b
- Bar 39 (Annotation 4): IV
- Bar 39 (Annotation 5): Ib
- Bar 39 (Annotation 6): #VII^b
- Bar 40: I
- Bar 40: V⁷

The notes in the score are primarily black, with some blue ink used for annotations. A circled number '4' is placed over the note in the bass staff of bar 39, which corresponds to the Roman numeral IV.

Figure 36 Harmonic annotation bar 38 to 40

Video: Harmony bar 38 to 40

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L76fAX5y9cs&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bar 38, featuring two staves of music. The top staff uses a treble clef and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. Both staves are in common time (indicated by a 'C'). The key signature is one flat. The lyrics are:

re - re me - i, mi - se-re - re
mi - se-re - re, mi - se-re - re me - i, mi - se-
- mi - se - re - re me - i, me -
me - i, mi - se - re - re me - i, mi -

Figure 37 Harmony bar 38 to 40

Video: Harmony bar 41 to 43 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZUKrwVqWeUY&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bar 41. The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The key signature is one flat. The melody is annotated with Roman numerals: 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Below the staff, harmonic analysis is provided:

V(#+b)	VI	V#	IIb	Ic	II7c	V#	I#
or				or			
IVb				IVb			

Figure 38 Harmonic annotation bar 41 to 43

Video: Harmony bar 44 to 47 reduction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBUEzEZtN1q&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for bar 44 to 47. The score consists of two staves: treble and bass. The key signature is one flat. The melody is annotated with Roman numerals: 1, 2, and 3. Below the staff, harmonic analysis is provided:

I#	IV	IVb	I#	IVb	IV	IVc	I#
----	----	-----	----	-----	----	-----	----

Figure 39 Harmonic annotation bar 44 to 47

Vocal lines & motivic structure

Section A

Video: Lines bar 1 to 4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z0HZXEVUbBY&feature=youtu.be>



Figure 40 Bar 1 to 5 annotated reduction

Video: Soprano bar 1 to 4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7IB7MuKf6A&feature=youtu.be>



Figure 41 Soprano bar 1 to 4

Video: Soprano bar 41 to 43

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fzdfdBIZK5I&feature=youtu.be>

41

me - i, me - - - i. o

Figure 42 Soprano bar 41 to 43

Video: Lines bar 5 to 8

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mhhJ8kYE11Y&feature=youtu.be>

5

na - tum de Ma - ri - - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -

na - tum - de Ma - ri - - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -

na - tum de Ma - ri - - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -

na - tum de Ma - ri - - a Vir - - - gi - ne, ve -

Figure 43 Lines bar 5 to 8

Figure 44 Lines bar 5 to 8 annotated

Video: Lines bar 8 to 12

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1p-GID1uUc&feature=youtu.be>

Figure 45 Lines bar 8 to 12

Video: Lines bar 12 to 15

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=owPNyyYBq8c&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves of music for bar 12. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The lyrics are: tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - in cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - . The fourth staff continues the melody from the third staff.

Figure 46 Lines bar 12 to 15

Video: Soprano bar 1 to 28

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWcnDz1fCjc&feature=youtu.be>

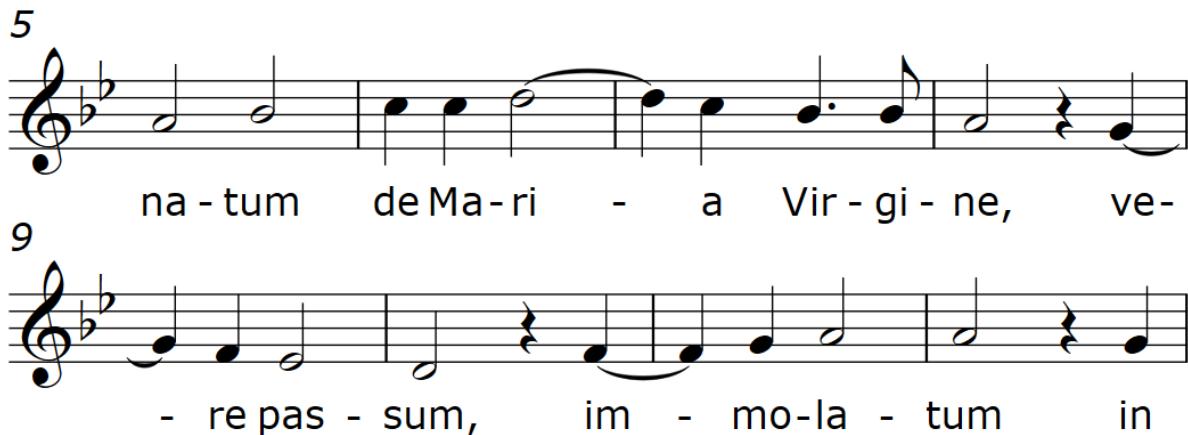
A musical score for soprano section A, bars 1 to 28. The score is in common time, key signature is one flat (B-flat). The vocal line consists of single notes and short melodic fragments. The lyrics are written below the notes. Measure numbers 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, and 25 are indicated on the left.

5
A - ve ve - rum cor - - pus,
na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
9
- re pas - sum, im - mo - la - tum in
13
cru - ce pro ho - mi - ne: Cu - ius la -
17
tus per - fo - ra - tum, un - da flux - it san - gu -
21
ne, san - gu - ne. Es - to no - bis prea - gus -
25
ta - tum in mor - tis ex - a - mi - ne. O

Figure 47 Soprano Section A bar 1 to 28

Video: Soprano bar 5 to 12

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QF_myZKwjUY&feature=youtu.be



Musical notation for Soprano bars 5 to 12. The music is in common time with a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are:

na - tum de Ma - ri - a Vir - gi - ne, ve -
- re pas - sum, im - mo-la - tum in

Figure 48 Melody Soprano bar 5 to 12

Video: Soprano bar 17 to 18

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VnboXAaSfqs&feature=youtu.be>



Musical notation for Soprano bars 17 to 18. The music is in common time with a key signature of one flat. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are:

tus per - fo - ra - - - tum,

Figure 49 Soprano bar 17 to 18

Video: Soprano bar 17 to 20

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2i_Pub4AfAQ&feature=youtu.be

17



19

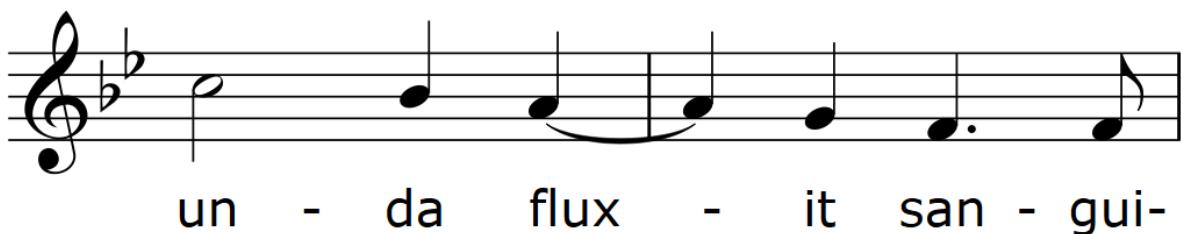


Figure 50 Soprano bar 17 to 20

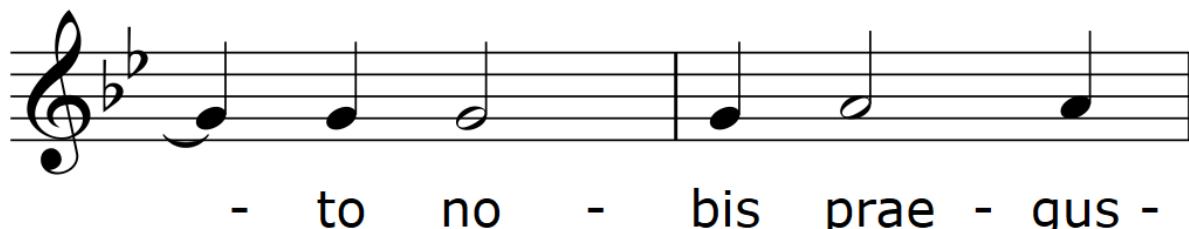
Video: Soprano bar 21 to 28

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pqiNGkTaUig&feature=youtu.be>

21



23



25



27



Figure 51 Soprano bar 21 to 28

Miserere Motif

Video: Bar 36 Miserere

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdrxjAwOhFq&feature=youtu.be>

[u.be](#)

36

mi - se - re - re

8

mi - se - re - re

Figure 52 Miserere Motif, Alto & Tenor, bar 36

Section B

(Return to [Texture & setting: Section B](#))

Video: bar 29 to 35

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4pCW2EaRwo&feature=youtu.be>

29

dul - cis, O pi - e, O Ie - su

O dul - cis, O pi - e, O Ie -

O dul - cis, O pi - e, —

O dul - cis, O pi - e, o Ie - su

33

— fi - li Ma - ri - - ae,

su fi - li Ma - ri - - ae,

O Ie - su fi - li Ma - ri - - ae,

fi - li Ma - ri - - ae,

Figure 53 Bar 29 to 35

Video: Bass bar 29 to 31

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZJPzNRdX_M&feature=youtu.be

29



Figure 54 Bass bar 29 to 31

Video: Bass bar 31 to 33

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JoAMmx80SHo&feature=youtu.be>

31



Figure 55 Bass bar 31 to 33

Video: Miserere Motif bar 36 to 39

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5sWADLSpDw&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The vocal line is "mi - se-re - re me - i," repeated in a loop. The bass line provides harmonic support.

36

mi - se-re - re me - i,

mi - se-re - re me - i, mi - se-re - re, mi - se-re - re

mi - se-re - re - me - i, mi - se - re - re me-

mi - se-re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re

Figure 56 Miserere Motif bar 36 to 39

Video: Miserere Motif bar 37 to 39

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Q23m_0swG4&feature=youtu.be

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature changes from one flat to one sharp. The time signature is common time. The score is annotated with black brackets above the notes, labeled with numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. The lyrics are written below the notes, corresponding to the annotated groups. The lyrics are: mi - se-re-re me - i, (bar 37) me - i, mi - se-re-re, mi - se-re - re (bar 38) me - i, 1 mi - se - re - re me (bar 39) mi - se-re-re me - i, mi-se - re - re (bar 39)

Figure 57 Miserere Motif bar 37 to 39 annotated

Video: Imitation bar 36 to 43

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0nSHHiZuK1Y&feature=youtu.be>

36

mi - se-re - re me - i,
mi - se-re - re me - i, mi - se-re - re, mi - se-re - re
mi - se-re - re - me - i, mi - se - re - re me -
mi - se-re - re me - i, mi - se - re - re - re

40

1.
mi - se-re - re me - i, me - - - i. o
me - i, mi - se - re - re me - - - i.
i, me - i mi - se - re - re me - i.
me - i, mi - se-re - re me - - - i.

Figure 58 Imitation bar 36 to 43

Video: Alto bar 40 to 43

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZIO49I8TJk&feature=youtu.be>

Musical notation for Alto bar 40 to 43. The music is in common time with a key signature of one flat. The vocal line consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with lyrics "me - i, mi - se - re - re me -". Bar 42 begins with a sustained note over a fermata, followed by a sharp sign indicating a key change.

Figure 59 Lines Alto bar 40 to 43

Video: Tenor bar 36 to 43

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EIc0e8w9j50&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of five staves of music for tenor voice. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time (indicated by '8'). The vocal line includes lyrics such as 'mi - se - re - re - me - i,' 'mi - se - re - re - me -' (with a fermata over the last note), 'i, me - i mi - se -' (with a fermata over the last note), and 're - re - me - i.' (with a fermata over the last note). The score ends with a repeat sign and two endings.

Figure 60 Tenor bar 36 to 43

Video: Bass bar 37 to 43

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojlAokm1_Fo&feature=youtu.be

37



mi - se - re - re me - i,

39



mi - se - re - re me - i, mi -

41



- se-re - re me - i.

Figure 61 Bass bar 37 to 43

Video: Final cadence bar 44 to 47

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u_ikoFYXERY&feature=youtu.be

u.be

The musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is soprano, the second is alto, the third is tenor, and the bottom is bass. The key signature is one flat. The first measure (bar 44) starts with a single note in each part. The second measure (bar 45, labeled '2.') begins with a sustained note followed by a vocal entry. The lyrics 'i.' and 'A' are written above the notes. The third measure (bar 46) continues with sustained notes and vocal entries. The lyrics 'men.' are written below the notes. The fourth measure (bar 47) concludes the section with sustained notes and vocal entries. The lyrics 'men.' are written below the notes.

Figure 62 Final cadence bar 44 to 47

(Return to [Texture & setting: Section B](#))

Rhythmic language

Hemiola

Section A

Video: Hemiola bar 1 to 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nj3E9R4eNrM&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The soprano staff starts with a whole note 'A'. The alto staff starts with a whole note 'A'. The tenor staff starts with a whole note 'A'. The bass staff starts with a whole note 'A'. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. In the first measure, there are three eighth notes followed by a vertical bar line. In the second measure, there is one eighth note followed by a vertical bar line. In the third measure, there are two eighth notes followed by a vertical bar line. In the fourth measure, there is one eighth note followed by a vertical bar line. The lyrics 've' are written below the notes in the soprano, alto, and tenor staves. The bass staff has a different rhythm pattern with a whole note followed by a half note.

Figure 63 Hemiola bar 1 to 2

Video: Hemiola bar 5 to 6

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8r3rTtpY14&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for Hemiola bar 5 to 6. The score consists of four staves: soprano (G clef), alto (C clef), tenor (F clef), and bass (C clef). The key signature is one flat. The soprano and alto sing in common time (indicated by '8'). The tenor and bass sing in 6/8 time. The lyrics are: na - tum de Ma - ri - na - tum - de Ma - ri - na - tum de Ma - ri - na - tum de _____ Ma - ri - a. Measure 5 ends with a bracket over the soprano and alto notes. Measure 6 begins with a bracket over the tenor and bass notes.

Figure 64 Hemiola bar 5 to 6

Video: Hemiola Tenor bar 10 to 13

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61h6JMmYIHY&feature=youtu.be>

Musical score for Hemiola Tenor bar 10 to 13. The score consists of three staves: soprano (G clef), alto (C clef), and tenor (F clef). The key signature is one flat. The soprano and alto sing in common time (indicated by '8'). The tenor sings in 6/8 time. The lyrics are: sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro. Measure 10 ends with a bracket over the soprano and alto notes. Measure 11 begins with a bracket over the tenor notes.

Figure 65 Hemiola Tenor bar 10 to 13

Video: Hemiola bar 10 to 14

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvcvbzAQ9kU&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves of music, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of common time (indicated by a 'C'). The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Brackets above the staves group notes together in a hemiola pattern: three notes grouped together followed by two notes grouped together. The lyrics are as follows:

sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi -
sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi -
sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi -
sum, im - mo-la - tum in cru - ce pro ho - mi -

Figure 66 Hemiola bar 10 to 14

Video: Hemiola bar 19 to 24

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UBGd6tW8FN4&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of two staves of music. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a time signature of common time (indicated by a 'C'). The bottom staff begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat, and a time signature of common time (indicated by a 'C'). The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. Brackets above the notes group them into pairs, illustrating the hemiola. The lyrics are written below the notes, corresponding to the groups of three notes per measure. The lyrics are: "un - da flux - it san-gui - ne, san - gui - ne. Es - to no - bis prea - gus-", followed by a repeat of the first line, and then "un - da flux its san - gui - ne. Es - to no - bis prea - gus-", and finally "un - da flux - it san - gui - ne. Es - to no - bis prea - gus-". The score shows a mix of eighth and sixteenth note patterns.

Figure 67 Hemiola bar 19 to 24

Section B

Video: Hemiola bar 32 to 35

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G06RKBpD-1M&feature=youtu.be>

The musical score consists of four staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef, the second in bass clef, the third in treble clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The time signature changes from common time (indicated by '8') to 6/8 (indicated by '6'). The lyrics are: Ie - su fi - li Ma - ri - ae, O Ie - su fi - li Ma - ri - ae, O Ie - su fi - li Ma - ri - ae, Ie - su fi - li Ma - ri - ae.

Figure 68 Hemiola bar 32 to 35

Links

Resources for this publication

The Tallis Scholars

<http://www.thetallisscholars.co.uk/>

The Tallis Scholars sing William Byrd

[http://www.gimell.com/recording-The-Tallis-Scholars-sing-
William-Byrd.aspx](http://www.gimell.com/recording-The-Tallis-Scholars-sing-William-Byrd.aspx)

The Tallis Scholars Sing William Byrd (Hyperion)

http://www.hyperion-records.co.uk/dc.asp?dc=D_CDGIM208

Gimell

<http://www.gimell.com/>

Illustrations, scores and other resources

http://www.nickredfern.co.uk/byrd_ave_verum_corpus.html

Video illustrations

http://www.nickredfern.co.uk/ave_verum_corpus.html

YouTube resources

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8gLwjg2ETCg4zsOXYgJrzg
?guided_help_flow=3](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8gLwjg2ETCg4zsOXYgJrzg?guided_help_flow=3)