

Senex puerum portabat

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Superius [Alto]

Medius [Tenor]

Tenor [Tenor]

Bassus [Bass]

Se - - nex pu - e - rum por - ta - - - -

Se - - nex pu - e - rum por - ta -

Se - -

Se -

Detailed description: This system contains the first four staves of the musical score. The Superius (Alto) staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/2 time signature. The lyrics 'Se - - nex pu - e - rum por - ta - - - -' are written below the notes. The Medius (Tenor) staff has a treble clef and a 4/2 time signature, with lyrics 'Se - - nex pu - e - rum por - ta -'. The Tenor (Tenor) staff has a treble clef and a 4/2 time signature, with lyrics 'Se - -'. The Bassus (Bass) staff has a bass clef and a 4/2 time signature, with lyrics 'Se -'. The music consists of a single melodic line in the Superius part, with the other parts providing harmonic support.

- bat, pu - e - rum por - ta - - bat, pu - er

- - bat, por - ta - bat, por - ta - - - bat,

- nex pu - e - rum por - ta - - - bat, pu - er

- nex pu - e - rum por - ta - bat, _____

Detailed description: This system contains the next four staves of the musical score. The Superius part continues with the lyrics '- bat, pu - e - rum por - ta - - bat, pu - er'. The Medius part has '- - bat, por - ta - bat, por - ta - - - bat,'. The Tenor part has '- nex pu - e - rum por - ta - - - bat, pu - er'. The Bassus part has '- nex pu - e - rum por - ta - bat, _____'. The music continues with the same melodic line in the Superius part.

10

au - tem se - nem re - ge - - - bat, quem

pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - - - bat, quem

au - tem, pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - bat,

pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - - bat,

Detailed description: This system contains the next four staves of the musical score. A box containing the number '10' is placed above the first staff. The Superius part has the lyrics 'au - tem se - nem re - ge - - - bat, quem'. The Medius part has 'pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - - - bat, quem'. The Tenor part has 'au - tem, pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - bat,'. The Bassus part has 'pu - er au - tem se - nem re - ge - - bat,'. The music continues with the same melodic line in the Superius part.

Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par - tum Vir - go per - man -

Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par - tum Vir - go per - man - - sit:

quem Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par -

quem Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et

Detailed description: This system contains the final four staves of the musical score. The Superius part has the lyrics 'Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par - tum Vir - go per - man -'. The Medius part has 'Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par - tum Vir - go per - man - - sit:'. The Tenor part has 'quem Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et post par -'. The Bassus part has 'quem Vir - go pe - pe - rit, et'. The music continues with the same melodic line in the Superius part.

20

- sit: i - - -
 et post par - tum Vir - go per - man - - sit: i -
 - tum Vir - go per - man - sit, per - man - - sit:
 post par - tum Vir - go per - man - - sit:

- psum, i - - - - psum, quem ge - - - nu -
 - - psum, i - - - - psum, quem ge -
 i - - - - psum, quem ge - - - nu - it, quem
 i - - - - psum, quem ge - - - nu - it,

30

- it, quem ge - - - nu - it, a - do -
 - nu - it, quem ge - - - nu - it, a - do - ra - - - vit,
 ge - - - nu - it, quem ge - - - nu - it, a - do -
 quem ge - - - nu - it, a - do - ra - - -

- ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - - vit,
 a - do - ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - - vit,
 - ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - - vit, a - do -
 - vit, a - do - ra - - - vit, a - do - ra - - - vit,

- vit, a - do-ra - - - - - vit.
- vit, a - do - ra - - - - - vit.
-ra - - - - - vit, a - do-ra - - - - - vit.
- vit, a - do-ra - - - - - vit.

The old man carried the child, but the child ruled the old man. Him that a Virgin bore, remaining evermore a virgin, she adored.

Source: William Byrd: *Gradualia, ac cantiones sacræ... Liber primus* (2nd edition, 1610), vol.2 no.18.

Liturgical function: Magnificat antiphon, First Vespers, the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Part of my complete edition of the published vocal works of William Byrd made available through the Choral Public Domain Library (<http://www.cpd.org>). For general editorial notes, please visit my user page at <http://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/User:DaveF>. All scores are made freely available according to the CPDL Licence for downloading, printing, performing and recording. No further conditions are or can be attached, although it's always good to hear of any performances. Please do not, without consulting me, make copies of my scores available through other websites – there's no need, first of all, as CPDL is always here, and secondly by doing so you put these editions beyond my control and so will miss out on any updates and revisions.