Herbert Howells
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G
SATB, organ

Herbert Howells's earliest setting of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis as a set was written around 1918 (about the same time as the early gems A Spotless Rose and Here is the Little Door) and published in 1920 – it is therefore now in the public domain in the United States (though not yet elsewhere).

In a 1982 lecture on Howells's sacred music, Richard Lloyd is nothing but complimentary: "I have never understood why [the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G] has not been more popular with choirs, or at least with choirmasters. Compared with his more recent settings, it is not too difficult, it has a compelling rhythmic drive to it if not taken too slowly, and it is immediately attractive, with interesting lines for all the voices. Apart from two or three awkward places, it is not too difficult for the organist either. How I should love to hear it sung by 700 voices at a Diocesan Choirs' Festival!"

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Ross Jallo, July 2019
Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)
edited by Ross Jallo

Soprano

Poco allegro

MAGNIFICAT

My soul doth magnify the Lord,

Alto

My soul doth magnify the Lord,

Tenor

My soul doth magnify the Lord,

Bass

My soul doth magnify the Lord,

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God,

and my spirit hath rejoiced,

and my spirit hath rejoiced,

and my spirit hath rejoiced,

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Howells - Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G

_ my Sa - viour._

For he_

God my Sa - viour._

God my Sa - viour._

God my Sa - viour._

hath re - gard - ed the low - li - ness of his hand-maid - en._

Sw. p
cresc.

Gt. Ped. in
He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scatter'd the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
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and hath exalted the

and hath exalted the

ed, exalted the

He hath filled

He hath filled

He hath filled

He hath filled

Humble and meek.

Humble and meek.

Humble and meek.

Humble and meek.

Humble and meek.

Humble and meek.

Humble and meek.
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ed the hun - gry________ with good__ things,

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and the rich he hath sent emp - ty a - way.

rallentando

Poco meno

He,  

He,  

He,
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allargando

ff

world

ff

world

and ev-er shall be,

world

and ev-er shall be,

world

and ev-er shall be,
NUNC DIMITTIS

Non troppo lento, ma assai espressivo
Lord, now letest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word;

for mine eyes have seen thy salvation.
Howells - Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in G

allargando A tempo

ev - er shall be, world with out end,
ev - er shall be, world with out end,
ev - er shall be, world with out end,
ev - er shall be, world with out end,
ever shall be, world without end,
ever shall be, world without end,
ever shall be, world without end,
ever shall be, world without end,
ever shall be, world without end,
ever shall be, world without end,

rallentando

A - men.
A - men.
A - men.
A - men.
A - men.
A - men.