

Antoine Brumel

1460 - ca. 1512

**Missa**  
**Pro Defunctis**

## Missa Pro Defunctis

Antoine Brumel was frequently alluded to by his contemporaries as one of the most prominent composers from around 1490-1520. Little is known about his early life, but he was probably born west of Chartres, perhaps in the town of Brunelles, making him one of the first of the Netherlandish composers who was actually French. He held posts at St Peter's in Geneva (until 1492) and Laon (around 1497) before becoming choirmaster to the boys at Notre-Dame de Paris from 1498 to 1500, and choirmaster to Alfonso I d'Este at Ferrara from 1506, replacing the famous composer Jacob Obrecht. The chapel there was disbanded in 1510, after which he evidently stayed in Italy; several documents connect him with churches in Faenza and Mantua, where he probably died in 1512 or shortly after. He is known to have written at least one work after his dismissal from Ferrara (the *Missa de beata virgine*), and he may have still have been alive in 1513 since there is a mention in a treatise of Vincenzo Galilei that Brumel was one of a group of composers who met with Pope Leo X in that year.

The *Missa Pro Defunctis* first appeared in a collection of masses released by Andreas de Antiquis in 1519; It must have achieved a certain amount of fame, as it appeared again in another collection, put together by Giacomo Junta in 1522.

Brumel's *Missa pro defunctis* for four voices, a late work, is notable for being the first Requiem to include a polyphonic setting of the *Dies Iræ*. Each movement is apparently based on a plainchant, but not all can be identified today. The unknown chants are in the *Christe*, *Sanctus* and *Agnus Dei*; the others can be found in the *Liber Usualis*.

### Commentary:

The *Missa pro Defunctis* is written at a low pitch; suggestions for performance would be ATTB.

Note values have been halved.

Suggested accidentals have been placed above notes in the score.

# Missa Pro Defunctis

## Introitus

Antoine Brumel (1460- ca. 1512)

Edited by Tim Risher

Superius  
æ - - - - ter - - - -

Altus  
æ - - - - ter - nam - - - - do - - - - na - - - -

Tenor  
Re - - - - qui - em æ - - - - ter - - - -

Bassus  
æ - - - - ter - - - -

6  
S  
nam do - - - - na - - - -

A  
e - - - - is, Do - - - - mi -

T  
nam do - - - - na - - - -

B  
nam do - na e - is, - - - -

Introitus  
Missa Pro Defunctis

Antoine Brumel

3

11

S e - - - - - is, Do - mi -

A - - - - - ne, et lux per-pe - tu -

T e - is, Do-mi - - - -

B Do - - - - - mi - ne, et lux per - pe - - -

18

S - - - - - ne, et lux per - pe - - - - tu - - - -

A - - - - - a lu - ce - at

T - - - - - ne, et lux per - pe - tu - - - -

B tu - a

23

S a lu - ce - at e -

A a lu - ce - at e - - - -

T a lu - ce - at e - - - -

B lu - - - - - ce - - - - at

Introitus  
Missa Pro Defunctis

30

S  
e - - - is.

A  
e - - - is.

T  
e - - - is.

B  
e - - - is.

35

S  
et ti - bi red - de -

A  
et ti - bi red - de -

T  
Te de - cet hym - nus De - us, in Si - on, et ti - bi red - de -

B  
et ti - bi red - de -

39

S  
tur vo - tum in Je - ru - sa - lem. Ex - au - di o -

A  
tur vo - tum in Je - ru - sa - lem. Ex - au - di o -

T  
tur vo - tum in Je - ru - sa - lem. Ex - au - di o -

B  
tur vo - tum in Je - ru - sa - lem. Ex - au - di o -

Introitus  
Missa Pro Defunctis

Antoine Brumel

5

47

S  
ra - ti - o - nem me-am; ad te om - nis ca - ro ve - ni - - - - -

A  
ra - ti - o - nem me-am; ad te om - nis ca - ro ve - ni - - - - -

T  
ra - ti - o - nem me-am; ad te om - nis ca - ro ve - ni - - - - et. \_\_\_\_\_

B  
ra - ti - o - nem me - am; ad te om-nis ca - ro \_\_\_\_\_ ve - ni -

54

S  
- - - et. \_\_\_\_\_

A  
- - - et. \_\_\_\_\_

T  
\_\_\_\_\_

B  
- - - et. \_\_\_\_\_