

To Félix de NOBEL

Opéra

I

O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM

English version by
HUGH ROSS

O how great the mystery, and how ineffable the covenant, that simple beasts behold the Christ-Child, as a babe new-born, and lying in a manger stall. O blessed Virgin, hallow'd is thy womb that it could hold the flesh and blood of Christ our Lord.

FRANCIS POULENC
1952

O magnum mysterium ; et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in præsepio. Beata virgo cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum.

Calmo e dolce $\text{♩} = 50$

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Piano
(for rehearsal
only.)

Sal. 12

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ppp dolce, legatiss.

O ma - gnum mys- te - ri - um, — et
O how great the mys - te - ry, — and
ppp appena articolato

- ra - bi - le sa - cra - men - tum —
- ef - fa - ble is the cov - e - nant —

mys - te - ri - um, — mys -
O the mys - te - ry, — the

ppp appena articolato

- ra - bi - le sa - cra - men - tum —
- ef - fa - ble is the cov - e - nant —

mys - te - ri - um, — mys -
O the mys - te - ry, — the

ppp appena articolato

- ra - bi - le sa - cra - men - tum —
- ef - fa - ble is the cov - e - nant —

O ma - gnum — mys -
O how great — the

①

↓

②

ad - mi - ra - bi - le
how in - ef - fa - ble

sa - cra - men - tum
is the cov - e - nant

ut a - ni - ma - li -
that sim - ple beasts be -

mf

te - ri - um
mys - te - ry,

ma - gnum,
how great,

a - ma - li -
that beasts be -

mf

te - ri - um
mys - te - ry,

sa - cra - men - tum,
of the cov - e - nant,

a - ni - ma - li -
that the beasts be -

mf

te - ri - um
mys - te - ry,

ma - gnum,
how great,

a - ma - li -
that beasts be -

②

p

- a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ-Child

Do-minum na-tum
as a babe new-born

- a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ-Child

Do-minum na-tum
as a babe new-born

p

- a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ-Child

Do-minum na-tum
as a babe new-born

p

- a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ-Child

Do-minum na-tum
as a babe new-born

f

Do-minum na-tum ja - cen - tem in pae -
as a babe new-born and ly - ing in a

pp ③ *ppp* m. 15

- se - pi - o.
man - ger stall.

O ma - gnum mys - te - ri - um, et ad - mi - ra - bi - le
O how great the mys - te - ry, and how in - ef - fa - ble

pp

- se - pi - o.
man - ger stall.

Mys - te - ri - um, mys - re - ri - um,
O the mys - te - ry, the mys - te - ry,

pp

- se - pi - o.
man - ger stall.

Mys - te - ri - um, mys - te - ry, the mys - te - ry,

pp

- se - pi - o.
man - ger stall.

O ma - gnum mys - te - ri - um,
O how great the mys - te - ry,

③

mf

sa - cra - men - tum,
is the cov - e-nant,
ut a - ni - ma - li -
that sim - ple beasts be -
hold the Christ - Child

mf

sa - cra - men - tum,
of the cov - e-nant,
a - ni - ma - li -
that beasts should be -
hold the Christ - Child

mf

sa - cra - men - tum,
of the cov - e-nant,
a - ni - ma - li -
that beasts should be -
hold the Christ - Child

mf

sa - cra - men - tum,
of the cov - e-nant,
a - ni - ma - li - a vi - de - rent
that beasts should be - hold the Christ - Child

p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Do-mi-num na-tum ja - cen - tem in pae - se - pi - o.
as a babe new-born and ly - ing in a man - ger stall.

Do-mi-num na-tum ja - cen - tem in pae - se - pi - o.
as a babe new-born and ly - ing in a man - ger stall.

Do-mi-num na-tum ja - cen - tem pae - se - pi - o. Be -
as a babe new-born and ly - ing in a man - ger. The

Do-mi-num na-tum ja - cen - tem pae - se - pi - o. Be -
as a babe new-born and ly - ing in a man - ger. The

(4)

+ Sarah

p dolcissimo

lip closed

Solo

Por - The

*a - ta vir - go cu - jus vis - ce - ra me - ru - e - runt
bles - sed vir - gin hal-low'd is thy womb that it could hold*

*a - ta vir - go Be - a - ta vir - go
bles - sed vir - gin o bles - sed vir - gin*

pp

lip closed

*ta - re Do - mi - num Chris-tum.
flesh and blood of Christ our Lord.*

p

*Be - a - ta
O bles - sed*

pp

lip closed

*Be - a - ta
O bles - sed*

pp

lip closed

*Be - a - ta
O bles - sed*

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Sal.12

5 *ppp* dolc. legatiss.

7

mf

ppp appena articolato

vir go.
vir gin.

mf

ppp appena articolato

vir go.
vir gin.

mf

ppp appena articolato

vir go.
vir gin.

5

mf

ad - mi - ra - bi - le
how in - ef - fa - ble

sa - cra - men - tum,
is the cov - enant,

ut a - ni - ma - li -
that sim - ple beasts be -

mf

- cra - men - tum
cov - e - nant

ma - gnum;
how great,

a - ni - ma - li -
that beasts be -

mf

- cra - men - tum
cov - e - nant

ma - gnum,
how great,

a - ni - ma - li -
that the beasts be -

mf

- era - men - tum
cov - e - nant

ma - gnum,
how great,

a - ma - li -
that beasts be -

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p

(6) *mf*

a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ - Child Do - mi - num na - tum _____ ja - cen - tem,
as a babe new-born _____ and ly - ing,

p

a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ - Child Do - mi - num na - tum _____ ja - cen - tem,
as a babe new-born _____ and ly - ing,

p

a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ - Child Do - mi - num na - tum _____ ja - cen - tem,
as a babe new-born _____ and ly - ing,

p

a vi - de - rent
hold the Christ - Child Do - mi - num na - tum _____ ja - cen - tem,
as a babe new-born _____ and ly - ing,

(6)

- ja - cen - tem, ja - cen - tem in pae - se - pi - o.
- and ly - ing, and ly - ing in a man - ger stall.
ff short *p subito* short *pp*

- ja - cen - tem, ja - cen - tem pae - se - pi - o.
- and ly - ing, and ly - ing in man - ger stall.
ff short *p subito* short *pp*

- ja - cen - tem, ja - cen - tem in pae - se - pi - o.
- and ly - ing, and ly - ing in a man - ger stall.
ff short *p subito* short *pp*

- ja - cen - tem, ja - cen - tem pae - se - pi - o.
- and ly - ing, and ly - ing in man - ger stall.
ff short *p subito* short *pp*

(6)