

An nescis, mi fili, quantilla prudentia mundus regatur?

by

Odd Sneeggen

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An nescis, mi fili, quantilla prudentia mundus regatur?

for amplified bass flute




Odd Sneeegen (2012)



Duration: 8 minutes

Notation: x = pitched key slap  = key slap with embouchure hole closed • = small notes, hum/sing or use a voice like timbre

▼ = air tone starting with a tone and ends with 100% air ▲ = air tone starting with 100% air and ends with a tone

■ = air tone, 100% air  = whistle tone  = explosive attack with air push  = lipsound, start with closed lips (loose) and then open mouth rapidly

 = Jet whistle, cover the embouchure hole and blow strongly inside

General Comments

The lyrics should be sung with a clear voice without any vibrato. When there are ‘small notes’ without lyrics these should be played or hummed with the same ‘voice-like’ timbre as the ‘small notes’ with lyrics. It should be made clear that the different parts relate to each other.

Background to the work's title

The title of the work “An nescis, mi fili, quantilla prudentia mundus regatur?” (Dost thou not know, my son, with how little wisdom the world is governed?) is taken from a letter, written by the statesman Axel Oxenstierna (1583-1654) to his son Johan in 1648.

Probably the best-known Swedish quotation for the English-speaking world (even if the words have also been attributed to Richelieu; the French cardinal considered Oxenstierna to be “an inexhaustible source of well-measured counsels”).

In the age of the great minister (Mazarin and Olivares, as well as Richelieu), Axel Oxenstierna served the Swedish king, Gustavus Adolphus, as Lord High Chancellor, from 1612, and was still in office at the abdication of Queen Christina in 1654.

As well as laying the foundations for the administrative system for government in Sweden, Oxenstierna was a key diplomatic influence in the Thirty Years War, and he wrote “An nescis...” as a means of encouragement for his son, then serving as a plenipotentiary for Sweden (Johan had been expressing reservations about his own capacities in matters of state) at the negotiations that would lead to the Peace of Westphalia.

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An nescis, mi fili, quantilla prudentia mundus regatur?

per flauto amplificato

Odd Sneeggen (2012)

$\text{♩} = 34$

Bass Flute

pp *p* *f* *p* *mf* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

An ne - - sc is,

pp *mp* *pp*

4

B. Fl.

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

mi fi - li, qu - an - til - la

mp

6

B. Fl.

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

pru - de - ti - a mun - dus

mp

8

B. Fl.

p *f* *p* *mp*

re - ga - tur

f *p* *mp*

whisper in mouthpiece

tones

4:3

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11 B. Fl.

13 B. Fl.

15 B. Fl.

17 B. Fl.

20 B. Fl.

24 B. Fl.

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B. Fl. 28

B. Fl. 30

B. Fl. 32

B. Fl. 34

B. Fl. 36

B. Fl. 37

B. Fl. 39

Copy for perusal. This music is copyright protected *fff*

41 B. Fl. *jet whistle*

43 B. Fl. *lip sound* *explosive*

46 B. Fl.

48 B. Fl.

49 B. Fl.

51 B. Fl.

53 B. Fl.

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55
B. Fl. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *ff*

rit.

58
B. Fl. *p*

59
B. Fl. *f* *p* *f* jet whistle

accel.

60
B. Fl. *p* *ff* *mf* *p*

62 $\text{♩} = 34$
B. Fl. 4:3 5:4 4:3

63
B. Fl. 4:3 5:4 *mf* *p*

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B. Fl. 64

4:3 5:4 4:3 4:3 5:4 4:3

p *mf* *f*

B. Fl. 66

4:3 5:4 4:3 4:3 5:4 4:3

p *f* *p* *mf*

B. Fl. 68

4:3 5:4 4:3 4:3 5:4 4:3

pp *mp* *mf* *p*

B. Fl. 70

rit. 4:3 accel. 5:4 4:3 ord. whistle tone

f

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