

Jubilate Deo

Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1612)

There were two Gabrielis associated with the music at St. Mark's, Venice. Andrea Gabrieli became organist there in 1566, and was succeeded by his pupil and nephew, Giovanni, in 1585. He in turn was followed by Monteverdi in 1613. For many years, composers had made extensive use of the architectural features of St. Mark's, with its great dome and numerous galleries at various levels. Giovanni Gabrieli, however, was the first to exploit these possibilities to the full in the structure and sonorities of his compositions, frequently calling for the considerable choral and instrumental forces at his disposal to be divided into several choirs or groups, to be placed strategically around the building for maximum dramatic and musical impact.

This *Jubilate* probably dates from after 1605, when the new Doge made fairly extensive economies to the musical activities at St Mark's. It is not typical of Gabrieli's usual polychoral compositions, being written for just one choir in eight parts, but is one of his most appealing works.

programme notes by John Bawden

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<p><i>O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise.</i></p>	<p><i>Be thankful unto him and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: World without end, Amen.</i></p>
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