

Gloria

John Rutter (b.1945)

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis
Quoniam tu solus sanctus

Though he is perhaps best known for his carols and other short pieces, John Rutter also has a number of large-scale works for chorus and orchestra to his name. Most of these received their first performances in the United States, where Rutter is a frequent visitor, writing regularly for American choirs and conducting performances of his own music.

The *Gloria* was commissioned by the Voices of Mel Olson, and first performed on May 5th 1974 in Omaha, U.S.A., conducted by the composer. It is scored for brass, timpani, percussion and organ, and is a setting in three movements of the Latin text of the liturgical Gloria in Excelsis Deo. The first movement establishes the festive nature of the piece, with exuberant writing for both choir and instruments. The second movement, 'Domine Deus, Rex caelestis', is by contrast reflective in nature, with florid decorations from the organ accompaniment. The third and final movement - 'Quoniam tu solus sanctus' - opens with a syncopated theme, followed by a lively fugal section which leads to a triumphant conclusion.

programme notes by John Bawden

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Gloria in excelsis Deo. et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fill unigenite Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Chnste, cum Sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

