

stile antico

# A Divine Hope

Dante's journey from inferno  
to paradise

Grammy-nominated vocal ensemble Stile Antico celebrates the work of Dante in a programme of Renaissance choral music.

Gustave Doré, *Paradiso, Canto XXXI*

## Management

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www.stileantico.co.uk

ikon|arts  
management



ARTIST MANAGEMENT



# The Programme



Dante Alighieri's *Comedia* (*Divine Comedy*) is considered one of the greatest works of literature ever written. *La Comedia's* enduring imagery has shaped our Western culture's views and understanding of the afterlife for more than 700 years and has inspired a large body of Western thought, art, and, of course, music.

Telling Dante's story *Stile Antico* descends with *Il Divino* into Hell, journeys with him through Purgatory, and finally arrives at the gates of Heaven.

Renaissance madrigals and sacred music by composers such as Palestrina, Guerrero and Morales illustrate the way, setting to music prayers which the poet features in his epic verse. Texts by Dante himself, set to music by Lazzaschi and Merulo, also narrate the story. These are punctuated by readings from the *Divine Comedy*. At the pinnacle of heaven we meet the Virgin Mary in Victoria's glorious 12-part Magnificat.



# A Divine Hope

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Media vita in morte sumus

Nicolas Gombert

### HELL

*'Abandon all hope, ye who enter in'*

*Extract from Inferno I*

Peccantem me quotidie

Quivi sospiri pianit ed alti guai

*Extract from Inferno XXXIV*

Vexilla regis

Dante Alighieri

Giovanni P. da Palestrina

Luzzasco Luzzaschi

Dante Alighieri

Francisco Guerrero

### PURGATORY

*'To course on fairer waters now hoists sail my imagination's little ship...'*

*Extract from Purgatorio VIII*

Te lucis ante terminum

Salve regina a 5

*Extract from Purgatorio IX*

Salvum fac populum tuum a 12

Dante Alighieri

Tomás Luís de Victoria

Giovanni P. da Palestrina

Dante Alighieri

Claudio Merulo

### INTERVAL

Agnus Dei, Missa Mille Regretz

*Extract from Inferno II*

Beati pauperes spiritu

Asperges me

*Extract from Purgatorio XXXI*

Cristóbal de Morales

Dante Alighieri

Orlande de Lassus

Cristóbal de Morales

Dante Alighieri

### HEAVEN

*"High in heaven a lady o'er us," said she, "by whose rule down in your world they vest and veil themselves.'*

Venite a laudare

Vergine, madre, figlia del tuo

*Extract from Paradiso XXIII*

Regina cæli a 5

Magnificat a 12

Anon. 14<sup>th</sup>-century

Claudio Merulo

Dante Alighieri

Vicente Lusitano

Tomás Luís de Victoria



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'The singing is staggeringly beautiful' **SUNDAY TIMES**

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'It's never a good idea to miss a concert from this British vocal ensemble: There are no finer singers of early music'  
**NEW YORK TIMES**

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Photos: Kaupo Kikkas

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Stile Antico can offer a 'one-act' performance of this programme if required.  
The programme is subject to change.

Please request the most up-to-date version of the programme before going to print.  
Programme notes and texts & translations are provided.

Stile Antico's programmes are introduced by members of the ensemble.

**Meet the artists:** at least four singers will be available after the concert to talk to audience members.