## N DULCI JUBILO ...for SATB choir + organ

By composer Gustaaf Nees, of the Lemmensinstituut.

"In Dulci Jubilo" is a Roman Catholic Christmas carol going back to the 14th century. When the Protestant sects broke away from Rome, many of them adopted it, but they deleted (or bowdlerized) the 4th verse, which talks about the Blessed Virgin Mary. Many Americans know the tune, thanks to the contrafactum "Good Christian Men, Rejoice." Gustaaf Nees (d. 1965), a Catholic organist, provides a splendidly bright setting of this ancient carol, and it appears below in a 2022 performance edition courtesy of *Corpus Christi Watershed*. Nees—known across the globe as a carillonneur—sets the words "trahe me post te" in a particularly evocative way. The section beginning with "pérditi essémus" also demonstrates praiseworthy sensitivity to the text. Regarding *slurs* (over the same syllable), these have been included where—in the editor's view—they help the singers. Singers bothered by the inconsistency are free to add any 'missing' slurs with a pencil.

In dulci júbilo clamáte gáudio, nobis gratiósus hic in praesépio, ut dies gloriósus Matris in grémio: Alpha est et O! With sweet revelry cry out in joy, he who pleases us here in a manger, glorious as daylight in his Mother's lap: he is the Alpha and O[mega]!

O Jesu párvule, quem volo strénue, fruar lenitáte, o Puer óptime, de tua bonitáte, o Princeps glóriae: trahe me post te!

O little Jesus, whom I desire strongly, may I enjoy [thy] tenderness, O best Child of all, by thy goodness, O Prince of glory: draw me after thee!

Ubi sunt gáudia? Regna caeléstia; ales ibi cantat nova cántica, campána quoque clangat in Regis cúria: eja quália! Where are joys found?
The heavenly realms;
there the winged one sings
new canticles,
and the bell rings
in the court of the King:
Ah, such things as these!

Mater et Fília, o Virgo María, pérditi essémus per nostra crímina, per te tamen habémus caelórum gáudia: quanta grátia! Mother and Daughter, O Virgin Mary, we were lost through our wrongdoing, but through thee we have the joys of heaven: what a grace!

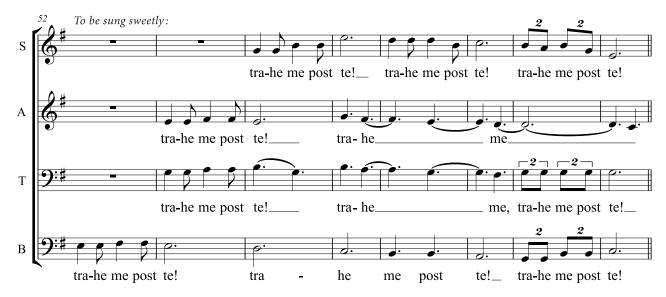




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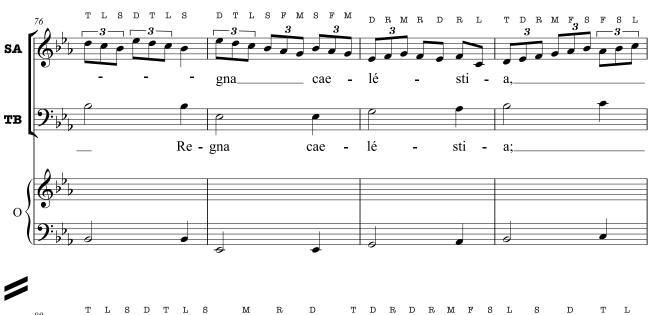


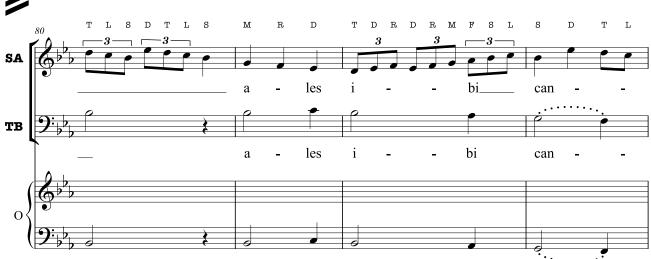


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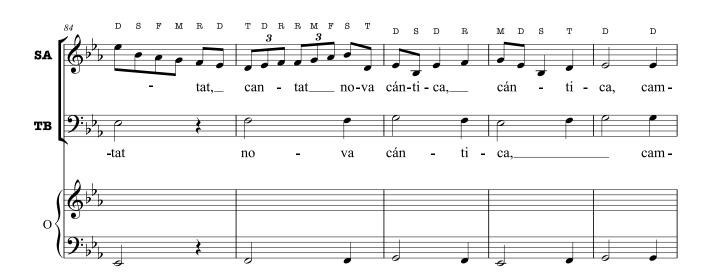






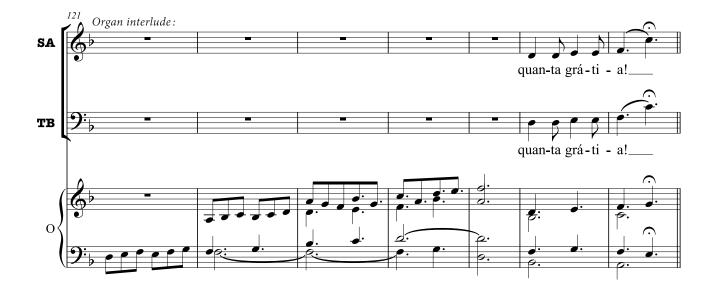
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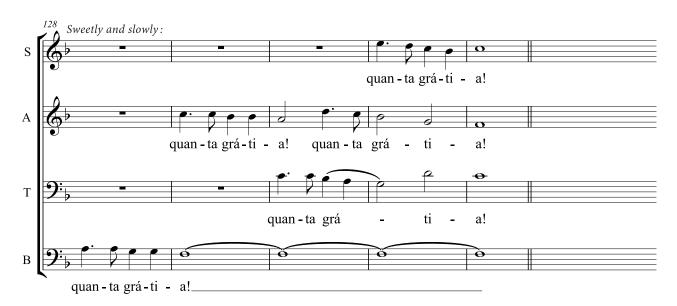












"The editors of the Brébeuf Hymnal have done a great service to the profession [in this] extensively researched volume worthy of careful study by liturgical musicians. This detailed exploration of classic Latin hymnody and its English translations is not only a labor of love, but an original contribution to research, and I hope that the results of this research project are shared more widely for the use of musicologists and liturgical historians."

— Journal of the Society for Catholic Liturgy (Vol. 23.2, 2019)

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The Father Brébeuf Hymnal "has no parallel and not even any close competitor."

— Author for the Church Music Association of America weblog (10 June 2022)