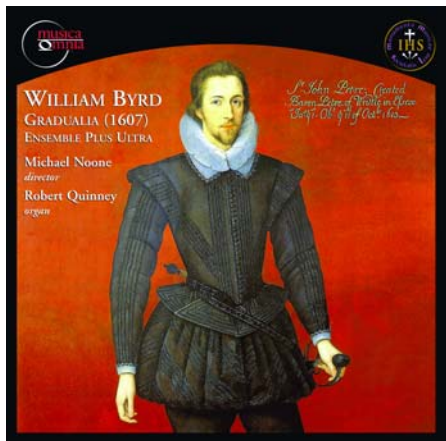


## William Byrd Gradualia (1607)

**Votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament and Corpus Christi**  
**Mass propers for feasts of Saints Peter and Paul**  
**Organ works / Motets**



William Byrd's *Gradualia* (1607), composed by England's greatest Catholic musician to be performed in secret against a background of religious persecution in late Elizabethan and Jacobean England, have been placed "among the finest English works of all time." By employing the single voices envisioned by the composer, our recording returns these virtuosic cries for justice and freedom to the perilous context of the clandestine liturgies for which they were composed. This recording is the first in Musica Omnia's series: *Monuments of Jesuit Music*, and is made possible by a generous grant from the Trustees of Boston College.

**Ensemble Plus Ultra** was founded in 2001 by Michael Noone and Warren Trevelyan-Jones with the express purpose of promoting historically-aware performances of Spanish liturgical music of the Golden Age. Comprising "a crack squad of the finest British early music singers" (Stephen Rice writing in *Early Music Today*), the group is distinguished from other early music ensembles by its innovative performances of unearthed treasures of the Renaissance.

many award-winning CDs of Renaissance polyphony, most recently with the Ensemble Plus Ultra. In 2006 Dr. Noone was decorated with the Premio Real Fundación Toledo by Spain's King Juan Carlos for his contribution to Spanish culture through music research, concerts and recordings. In 2006 he was elected to the Real Academia de Bellas Artes y Ciencias Científicas de Toledo. He teaches music at Boston College.

**Michael Noone** is an authority on Spanish liturgical polyphony who combines music scholarship with a busy career as a performing musician. He has recorded

**Robert Quinney** studied at King's College, Cambridge, where he was Organ Scholar from 1995 to 1998. He now holds the post of Sub-Organist of Westminster Abbey.



**Ensemble Plus Ultra**  
**Michael Noone, director**



### Features:

- First recording for solo voices in a projected series of releases.
- Debut recording for Musica Omnia of *Ensemble Plus Ultra*
- Conductor Michael Noone is an internationally recognized Renaissance expert
- CD is offered in lavish digipak format: includes extensive notes and illustrations.

**Configuration:** Single CD digipak format

**Available:** July, 2008

**Recorded:** May, 2007

**Booklet:** 28 page

**Reviews:** BBC Music Magazine, Gramophone, International Record Review, Musicweb, Early Music, Early Music America, American Record Guide, Goldberg Magazine

### Track List

- 1 Circumspice Hierusalem 6vv
- 2 Fantasia (BK46)
- 3 Why do I use my paper, ink and pen? \*

### Votive Mass of the Blessed Sacrament and Corpus Christi

- 4 Tract: Ab ortu solis 4vv
- 5 Venite, comedite panem meum (secunda pars) 4vv
- 6 Alleluia: Cognoverunt discipuli 4vv

- 7 Benedictus antiphon: Ego sum panis vivus 4vv
- 8 Magnificat antiphon: O quam suavis est 4vv
- 9 Hymn: Jesu nostra redemptio 4vv
- 10 Fantasia (BK13)

### Mass propers for feasts of Saints Peter and Paul

- 11 Introit: Nunc scio vere 6vv
- 12 Gradual: Constitues eos Principes 6vv

- 13 Alleluia (for St. Peter's Chains): Solve jubente Deo 6vv
- 14 Communion: Tu es petrus 6vv
- 15 Magnificat Antiphon: Hodie Simon Petrus 6vv
- 16 Magnificat Antiphon: Tu es Pastor ovium 6vv
- 17 Benedictus Antiphon: Quodcunque ligaveris 6vvv
- 18 Ut re mi fa sol la (BK64)
- 19 Venite exultemus Domino 6vv

Label	Cat.#	Barcode and UPC#	Title	Suggested Retail Price	Inv	Ord.
Musica Omnia	MO 0302	8 01890 03022 7	William Byrd: Gradualia (1607)	\$13.99		

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