NOTES

The following transcription is intended only for performing purpose and doesn't seek any critical goal.

The key, time signatures, note values, accidentals and colourings are as in the original print, apart from:

- the B sharp and E sharp are converted in B natural and E natural (E natural is only a warning: do not flat this note!)
- the perfect breves and the brevis rests are dotted

The C clefs are transposed in G and modern Tenor clefs.

The accidentals above the note are trancriber's suggestion

The asterisks above the note mark the correction of three errors: in the original print there is, in the Cantus II, a dotted chroma instead of a dotted semiminima and, in the Tenor II, there are a spurious semibrevis rest and an E instead of an F)

Instead of marking the "ligaturae" with the usual square brackets, I tried to keep their original shape, as far as possible in the score alignment, to make them more visible (the notes' values of the "ligaturae" in this composition are always a couple of semibreves, except the coloured element in the Bassus I that is a dotted minima).

In the music before the baroque, the Time Signatures are intended just only as "time" prescription, i.e. which note value as to be counted (mensura) and how the different note values are to be divided (perfection and imperfection). This music is above all a vocal music and its rhythm (the accents) is based upon the text rhythm (the text accents) either following or contrasting it. The text rhythm being not modular by definition, forcing a bar division, i. e. a modular rhythm, upon this music is a theoretical error involving practical ones: to put the accents in the wrong places and to prevent a correct understanding of the melodic flowing.

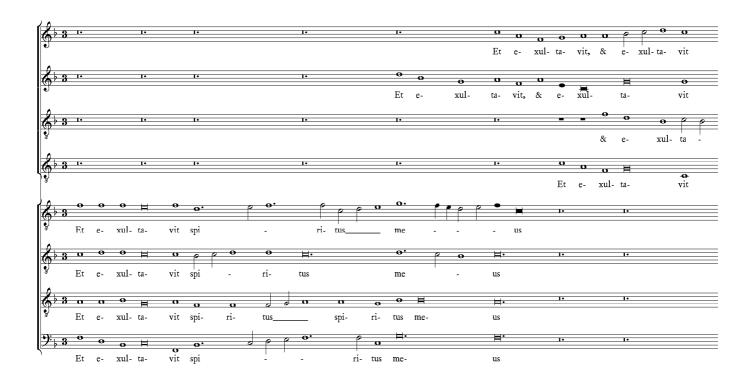
The single parts are put together in score for a better overall sight of the harmonic, melodic and rhythmic structure of the composition.

If you have any doubt you can download free the fac-simile of the original print from the following address:

http://www.kb.dk/da/nb/samling/ma/digmus/pre1700_indices/praetorius.html

Magnificat





Michael Praetorius - Musarum Sioniarum N. XXXIII

Transcription by Renato Calcaterra

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