

The Scratch[®] Verdi Requiem — Chorus notes for Singers

DRESS: Elegant. Most men wear dark suits, most ladies wear dresses or skirts. As at all Scratch concerts, Sopranos should wear something including blue and Contraltos something with red. Those who prefer comfort to elegance may like to opt for our TRBC polo shirts, which are available in these colours (order forms can be downloaded from www.trbc.co.uk). Children in school parties are advised to wear their normal uniforms. Changing areas are available on the day, but these will not be locked at any time so do not leave valuables in them. Dressing Room 10 is for gentlemen (in the West Corridor under the Arena) and Dressing Rooms 11 and 12 for ladies (these are rather difficult to find—please follow signs from the West Arena Foyer, or ask Stewards for directions).

SCORES: Participants must bring their own vocal scores for the Requiem. This will be sung in Latin, in the edition published by Ricordi. Scores should be obtained in good time, as this concert may create a rush for them. If you have no convenient local music shop, Music Dynamics can supply these scores, and offers an efficient telephone service (01242 679379). Scores will not be available on the day.

TIMES (please note): There will be a rehearsal from 4.00 to 5.30 pm. Doors will open at 3.15 pm, and we ask you to be seated by 3.50 for a prompt start at 4.00 pm. There will then be a break of two hours for you to eat and change (remember that the Royal Albert Hall does not permit patrons to bring their own food and drink for consumption on the premises). There will be an interval after the Dies Irae, and the performance will end at about 9.30 pm.

MUSICAL INSTRUCTIONS

We strongly advise you to mark your score in advance as follows:

No. 1 Requiem & Kyrie

p 2 top line: **all** sopranos sing, and be sure to observe the crotchet rests (ditto p.6, bottom line)

p 2 penultimate bar: be sure to sing the correct rhythm here and in the following bar, with double-dotted crotchets followed by semiquavers (compare with p 7, top line, bars 5 & 6, which have single dotted crotchets and quavers)

p 17 bars 3 and 4: **all** voices sing

p 30: **all** tenors, contraltos and sopranos sing these lines (not soli, as marked)

No. 2 Dies irae

pp 56-57: 1st basses should sing 'Rex tremendae majestatis' with 2nd basses, then move up to 3rd tenor (both times)

p 69 bars 1 and 2: **all** basses and tenors sing

No. 4 Sanctus

p 129: there will be no physical separation of the two choruses, so singers may learn either part. However, on the day of the performance we usually find that first sopranos predominate, so please learn the *second* soprano part if:

- this is the first time you have sung Verdi's Requiem
- you are not bothered which part you sing
- if you are prepared to do some advance homework to learn a new part

No. 7 Libera me

p 175: please learn this page by heart. It will be sung **ppp** in speech rhythm

p 210–212: **all** voices sing, not 4 solo voices as marked

Stands and sits

All as printed in the score **except** p 84, where you should stand at line 2 bar 1 (i.e. figure 46), and NOT where marked on the bottom line at fig. 47.

For the stands and sits on pp 105, 129, 161 and 173, there will be a signal to stand or sit from the conductor. At all other times, stand or sit in accordance with the printed instructions.