

Memento mori: An AIDS Requiem

James Adler

1. Requiem aeternam

Traditional Latin Text

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua, luceat eis.
Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion,
et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem.
Exaudi orationem meam,
ad te omnis caro veniet.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and let the perpetual light shine on them.
Hymns are sung to you, O God in Zion,
and to you vows are made in Jerusalem.
Hear my prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.

Kyrie eleison.
Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,
et lux perpetua, luceat eis.

Lord, have mercy on us.
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord,
and let the perpetual light shine on them.

Poetry by Quentin Crisp¹

Now I am dead;
 the cold, square house is shut.
Where once I used to live and wonder why,
And every dark, uncurtained eye,
Though bleak before, is now a shade more bleak.

Upon the blue-green lawns the starlings strut
Where once I stood and hoped that I might die;
They strut and lance with sudden beak
The blue-green blades that no one comes to cut.

And on the pathways, tended now no more,
The raindrops, gathered on the underside
Of leafless boughs, drip as they dripped before,
And here I walk and wonder why I died.

1. "Now I am Dead," by Quentin Crisp

2. Dies irae

Traditional Latin Text

Dies irae, dies illa,
solvat saeculum in favilla,
[judicandus homo reus],
teste David cum Sybilla.

Day of wrath, that day,
the world will dissolve in ashes,
[the sinful will be judged]
as David attested with the Sybil.

Quantus tremor est futurus,
quando iudex est venturus,
cuncta stricte discussurus.

What trembling there will be,
when the Judge comes,
and all is strictly examined.

Tuba mirum spargens sonum
per sepulchra regionum,
coget omnes ante thronum.

The wondrous trumpet's call sounds
in tombs throughout the world,
sending everyone to the throne.

Mors stupebit et natura,
cum resurget creatura,
iudicanti responsura.

Death and nature are stupefied,
with resurrected humanity,
to answer to their judgement.

Liber scriptus proferetur,
in quo totum continetur,
unde mundus iudicetur.

A book will be proffered
in which everything is contained
under which the world will be judged.

Judex ergo cum sedebit,
quidquid latet, apparebit:
Nil inultum remanebit.

Thus, when the Judge is seated,
that which was hidden will appear:
Nothing will remain unpunished.

Quid sum miser tunc dicturus?
Quem patronum rogaturus,
cum vix justus sit securus?

What shall I then say?
What patron shall I entreat
when the just are scarcely secure?

Rex tremendae majestatis,
qui salvandos salvas gratis,
salve me, fons pietatis.

King of tremendous majesty,
who freely saves the redeemed,
save me, fount of mercy.

3. Yizkor (Remembrance)

Traditional Hebrew Text

Adapted by J.A.

Yizkor elohim,
nishmot
[reyim ahuvim],
shehal'chu l'olamam.

May God remember
the souls of
[my beloved friends and lovers],
who have gone to their world.

Memento Mori: An AIDS Requiem

for Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Baritone,
Men's Chorus (T.T.B.B.) and Orchestra

James Adler

1. Requiem aeternam For Mezzo-Soprano, Chorus, and Orchestra

Traditional Latin Text and
Poetry by Quentin Crisp

[Slow and Solemn ♩ = 72] 5

Mezzo Soprano

Tenor I

Tenor II

Baritone

Bass

Keyboard

pp

Re - qui - em

[Slow and Solemn ♩ = 72] 5

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Baritone *pp* 10
Re-qui-em ae - ter - nam

Bass *pp*
Re-qui-em ae - ter - nam

mp 5 *mf* 3 *p* 10
pp *p*

Red. *

Tenor I *mp* *fz*
Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na

Tenor II *mp* *fz*
Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na

Baritone *mp* *fz*
Re - qui - em do - na

Bass *mp* *fz*
Re - qui - em do - na

sfz *sfz* *p*

Red. *

3. Yizkor (Remembrance)

for Lyric Baritone, Chorus,
Piano, Flute, and Double Bass

Text: Traditional *Yizkor* service (adapted by J. A.)

Based on *Ahava-Raba* prayer mode

English version adapted by J. A.

Pronunciation Guide for singing in Hebrew

Follow the general rule for Italian diction, with the following exceptions:

ch - as in the German *Bach*

e - always open, as in *red*

ey - similar to the French *passé*

g - always hard, as in *gold*

h - as in *head*

i - always closed, as in *greet*

k - as in *kid*

o - similar to the French *beau*

s - always unvoiced, as in *said*

sh - as in *shall*

z - as in *zoo*

Moderate Tempo - With Deep Feeling *stringendo*

* $\text{♩} = 84$ *rall.*

Baritone

Tenor I
Tenor II

Baritone
Bass

Keyboard

Moderate Tempo - With Deep Feeling *stringendo*

* $\text{♩} = 84$ *rall.*

mp *mf* *mf e dim.*

*Please note that this is a non-Western key signature with a G# and an F natural.

a tempo *stringendo* *mf e dim.*

My thanks to Joshua R. Jacobson and the HaZamir Music Publications (Newton, MA)
for use of the pronunciation guide and help with preparation of the text. -- JRA

Baritone Solo

10 With rubato (♩ = 69-72) *mp* *mf*

Yiz - kor el - o - him, yiz - kor el - o - him nish - mot re - yim a - hu -

10 With rubato (♩ = 69-72) *p* *mf*

mp *mp*

vim, she - hal' - chu l' -

Chorus unison *p* *mp* *p*

May God re - mem - ber the souls of my be - lov - ed friends and lov - ers,

p *mp* *sfz* 5

15 *p*

o - la - mam, she - hal' - chu l' - o - la - mam,

15 *mp* *p*

who have gone to their world.

Freely -- Cadenza

mp e cresc. she-hal'chu l'-o-la - - - - mam, *In tempo* U - vis - char, *a tempo* *mp* U - vis - char zeh

Freely -- Cadenza *mf* With Soloist *In tempo* *a tempo* *p* In this me - rit, *mp*

cresc. [20] *cresc.* [20]

tih' - ye - nah naf - sho - tey - hem ts' - ru - rot bitz - ror ha - cha -

f Freely *mp* *rall.* *a tempo*

yim, *tr* bitz - ror ha - cha - yim, *p* *mf*

Freely *a tempo* *p e cresc.* *mf*

may their souls be bound in the Bond of