

Cantate Domino

Nancy Hill Cobb (b. 1951)

Text, IPA and Translation

[kan-ta-tɛ dɔ-mi-nɔ kan-ti-kum nɔ-vum]

Cantate Domino, canticum novum.

sing God song new

[kan-ta-tɛ dɔ-mi-nɔ ɔm-nis tɛ-ra]

Cantate Domino, omnis terra.

sing God all earth

[kan-ta-tɛ dɔ-mi-nɔ kan-ta-tɛ dɔ-mi-nɔ a-lɛ-lu a-lɛ-lu a-lɛ-lu-ja]

Cantate Domino, cantate Domino, allelu, allelu, alleluia.

Sing God Sing God alleluia

[kan-ta-tɛ dɔ-mi-nɔ bɛ-nɛ-di-tʃi-tɛ nɔ-mi-nɛ ɛ-jus]

Cantate Domino benedicite nomine ejus,

Sing God bless name his

[a-nun-tsi-a-tɛ in-tɛr dʒɛn-tɛs glɔ-ri-am tu-am]

Annuntiate inter gentes gloriam tuam.

announce among nations glory your

[kwɔ-ni-am ma-ɟus dɔ-mi-num ɛt lau-da-bi-lis ni-mis]

Quoniam magnus Dominum, et laudabilis nimis.

because great Lord and to be praised greatly

Cantate Domino, canticum novum. Cantate Domino, omnis terra.	Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing to the Lord all the earth.
Cantate Domino, benedicite nomine ejus.	Sing to the Lord, bless his name.
Annuntiate inter gentes gloriam tuam, in omnibus populis mirabilia ejus.	Declare his glory among the nations his wonders among all people.
Quoniam magnus Dominus et laudabilis nimis.	For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised. ¹

¹ Word for word translation and IPA transcription by Elizabeth Pauly. Poetic translation by Cobb, Nancy Hill. "Cantate Domino". Santa Barbara Music Press, 1999, p. 8.

Background

The text comes from the Biblical Psalm 95. The text has been modified somewhat.

Recordings

Hope Middle School conducted by Paul Flowers: [Cantate Domino](#)

ACDA Summer Honor Choir, 2012: [Cantate Domino](#)

Analysis

Key: D Major/F Major/D Major

Meter: predominantly 6/8 with occasional shifts to different meters.

Form: ABA'

The composer makes frequent use of sequences, both tonal and real. In Figure 1 (ms. 8-10), we see the use of real sequences in Sequence 1, and tonal sequences in Sequence 2. Ms. 40-49 are built almost exclusively with tonal sequences.

Sequence 1
1st segment

2nd segment

Sequence 2
1st segment

2nd segment 3rd segment

Can - ta - te Do - mi-no, can - ta - te Do - mi-no, al - le-lu, al - le-lu, _

Figure 1

SECTION	MEASURE	EVENT AND SCORING
Intro	1-2	piano introduction
A		
a	4-13	unison melody
a'	14-23	part two has melody, part one sings harmony which is predominantly homorhythmic
interlude	24-26	modulation to F major
B		
b	27-39	unison until ms 36 where part 2 sings in homorhythmic harmony with part 1 melody
c	40-49	this section is built on a series of tonal sequences begun by part 1, with part two following in modified canon
interlude	50-52	modulation back to D Major
A'		
a'	53-59	exactly like ms. 14-23
coda	60-69	coda built on musical materials on the syllables "allelu" found in ms. 10, 20 and 59