

Commissioned by Stephen Taylor, to mark his sixtieth birthday, as a gift to all those who uphold the tradition of ecclesiastical choral music, and dedicated to his wife and two sons and all whom they hold most dear.

First performed by the Choir of Merton College Chapel, Oxford,
conductor Benjamin Nicholas, on 17 November, 2013, in the College Chapel

Vita Mundo

In hoc singulari signo vita redditur mundo

Texts taken from the image of a Saxon cross
at St Paul's, Jarrow, Northumbria
and Psalm 127

CECILIA McDOWALL

Expressive, always flowing ♩ = 52–56

The musical score is written for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Organ. The time signature is 4/4, with a tempo of 52-56 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts are marked *mp* *freely, quasi plainchant*. The Organ part is marked *mp* and *mf*. The lyrics are: "In hoc singulari signo vita redditur mundo". The score includes a "Solo" section for the Organ and a "Man." section for the Organ. The Organ part features a "Solo" section with a 5-measure rest and a "Man." section with a 5-measure rest. The Organ part also includes a 3-measure rest. The Organ part is marked *mf* *freely* and *mp*.

SOPRANO
mp *freely, quasi plainchant*
In hoc sin-gu - la-ri

ALTO
mp *freely, quasi plainchant*
In hoc

TENOR
mp *freely, quasi plainchant*
In hoc sin-gu - la-ri

BASS
mp *freely, quasi plainchant*
In hoc

ORGAN
mp *mf* *mp*
Man. (Man.)

Sig - no
mf *mf* *mf* *mf*
vi - ta mun -
vi - ta red - di - tur
vi - ta red - di - tur
vi - ta red - di - tur mun -

Man.
mf *mp*
5 3

A tempo

mp

10

-do. Un-less the Lord,

mun - do. Un-less the Lord,

mun - do. Un-less the Lord,

-do, mun - do. Un-less the Lord,

(Man.) Ped. 8'

14

mp *p* *poco*

un-less the Lord builds the house, its build-ers la-bourin vain.

mp *p* *poco*

un-less the Lord builds the house, its build-ers la-bourin vain.

mp *p* *poco*

un-less the Lord builds the house, its build-ers la-bourin vain.

mp *p* *poco*

un-less the Lord builds the house, its build-ers la-bourin vain.

mp *p* *poco*