

B R A H M S

Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat Major, Opus 83

THIRD MOVEMENT



“BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT IN NOMINE DOMINI”

A TREASURE REVEALED

De-coding and text-underlay by

W I L L E M I B E S

Brahms Piano Concerto No.2 Opus 83

Benedíctus qui venit in nomine Domini (Blessed Who comes in the name of the Lord)

Matthew 21:1-11

“The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; They brought the donkey and the colt, and put their clothes on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and followed were shouting:

“Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven.”

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil asking,

“Who is this?”

The crowds were saying

“This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

Sanctus (The Ordinary of the Mass)

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus. Dóminus Deus Sábaoth.

Pleni sunt caeli et terra glória tua.

Hosáanna in excélsis.

Benedíctus qui venit in nómine Dómini.

Hosáanna in excélsis.

Holy, holy, holy. Lord God of hosts

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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THIRD MOVEMENT

For Akiko

Willem Ibes

Johannes Brahms (Published 1882)

De-coding and text-underlay

Andante

Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dictus qui ve nit qui ve nit

Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit ve nit in nomi ne Do - mi ni

p espress.

No - mi - ne - Do - mi - ni - No - mi - ne - Do - mi ni

Passim "Nominem Domini"

Be ne dic - tus qui - venit in nomine Do - mi ni

p dolce

Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dic tus qui ve - nit Be ne dic tus qui - ve nit ve - nit in no - mi ne

Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve nit ve nit in no mi ne Do - mi - ni

Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dictus qui ve nit

cresc.

Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit ve nit in no mi ne Do - mi - ni -

Bene dictus qui ve nit in no - mi - ne Do - mi - ni Bene dic tus

mf

Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be - (ne -) dic tus qui ve nit venit in nomi ne *p dolce* Bene dic

Be - ne dic - tus qui ve nit venit in no mi ne venit in no mi ne *Bene dictus*

18

qui ve nit in no - mi ne

tus qui ve nit in no - mi ne in no - mi ne in no - mi ne - Do - mi - ni -

qui ve nit in no - mi ne

f *p dim.*

23

Be - ne - dic tus qui - ve nit Be - ne - dic tus qui - ve nit

pp rit.

25

in tempo

Be - ne - dic - tus Be ne - dic tus qui ve - nit ve - nit in - no mi ne ve - nit in - no mi ne

p

Be - ne - dic tus qui - ve - nit - Be - ne dic tus qui - ve - nit -

in tempo

27

1

Be - ne - dic - tus Be ne - dic tus qui ve - nit ve - nit in - no mi ne ve - nit in - no mi ne

Be - ne - dic tus qui - ve - nit - Be - ne - dic tus qui - ve - nit -

29

1

ve - nit - in no - mi ne ve - nit - in no mi - ne

ve - nit - in - no - mi - ne - ve - nit - in - no - mi - ne

f dim.

31

1

Be - ne dic - tus - qui ve nit in no mi ne

p dolce

ve nit ve nit ve nit ve nit ve nit ve nit ve nit ve nit ve nit ve nit

— Be - ne dic - tus - qui ve - nit -

33

1

cresc.

ve nit no mi ne Do mi ni no mi ne ve nit no mi ne Do mi ni no mi ne

f

35

1

Do (mi ni)

f

Be ne dictus qui ve - nit - Be ne dictus qui ve - nit -

Be ne dictus qui ve nit

2

f

Be - ne dic - tus

fp

Be ne dic tus qui ve - nit -

fp

37

1

Be ne dictus qui ve - nit - Be ne dictus qui ve - nit -

2

Be ne dic tus qui ve - nit -

fp

fp

38

1 *fp*

2 *fp*

Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit -

Be ne dictus qui ve nit

39

1

2

Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit -

Be (ne dictus qui) ve nit

40

1

2

cresc.

Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit

Be ne dictus qui ve - nit

41 *f* *ve* - *nit* - *in* - *no* - *mi* *ne* *Do* (*mi ni*)

41 *sf* *Be* (*ne dictus qui*) *f* *ve nit* *Be ne dictus qui ve nit*

43 *f* *Be* *ne dictus qui ve* - *nit* - *Be* *ne dictus qui ve* - *nit* -

43 *fp* *Be* *ne dic* *tus* *fp* *qui* *ve* - *nit* -

44 *Be* *ne dictus qui ve* - *nit* - *Be* *ne dictus qui ve* - *nit* -

44 *fp* *Be* *ne dic* *tus* *fp* *qui* *ve* - *nit* -

8^{va}-

45

1 *fp*

2 *fp*

Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit -

Be ne dic tus qui ve nit

(8^{va})

46

1

2

Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit -

Be ne dic tus qui ve nit

47

1

2

Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit -

Bene dictus qui ve nit

51 *f* *8va* ve - nit in no - mi - ne

51 *fp* ve nit *fp* ve nit

52 *f* *8va* Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit -

52 *fp* Benedictus (qui) ve nit *mf*

53 ve nit in no - mi - ne - no mi ne Do - mi - ni qui - ve nit in no mi ne Do - mi - *f*

53 ve nit in no mi ne Do mi ni

55

p

1

ni

p

Be - ne - dic - tus qui ve - nit

2

55

p

Do - mi - ne Do - mi - ni

Be - ne dic - tus -

rit. molto -----

57

1

pp

dolce

Be - ne - dic - tus qui - ve - nit

rit. molto -----

57

2

pp dim.

ppp

Be - ne dic - tus

Be - ne dic - tus qui ve - nit

Do - mi - ne Do - mi - ni

(Be) ne dic - tus (Be) ne dic - tus (Be) ne dic - tus

Più adagio
molto espr.

1

Be ne dic - tus - qui - ve - nit - Be ne dic - tus - qui - ve - nit - Be ne dic - tus - qui - ve - nit -

Più adagio

2

ni Bene dic tus Bene dic tus Bene dic tus

pp sempre dolciss.

qui ve nit qui ve nit in nomi ne

1

Be ne dic - tus - qui - ve - nit - Be - ne dic - tus Be - ne dic - tus

2

Bene dic tus Bene dic tus

no mi ne Do mi ni (Be) ne dic - tus

1

64

Be - ne - dic tus qui - ve - nit - Be - ne - dic tus qui - ve - nit

2

64

Be - ne dic tus

Strings

Bene - dictus

ppp

(Be) ne dic - tus qui ve nit in nomi ne

1

66

Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit

2

66

Bene - dictus qui - venit

qui venit in nomine rit. qui ve - nit in nomi - ne

1 Bene dic - tus qui ve nit

2 (?) in ————— dim. nomine —————

Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit

70 in tempo primo

1 in no mi ne Do mi ni

2 Domini (?) Be ne dictus qui ve nit

Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit

dolce p Do mi ne -

Be - ne dic - tus

72

1

2 Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dictus qui ve nit

qui ve nit Do mi ni Do mi ne -

qui venit

1

74

qui -

2

74

qui ve nit *f* qui ve nit *p* qui ve nit in no mi ne

in no mi ne in no mi ne in -

Do - mi - ni *mf*

p

1

77

ve nit in - no mi ne Do - mi - ni *p* Do mi ne Do (mi ni)

2

77

Do - mi - ni Be ne dictus qui ve nit Be ne dictus qui ve nit

no mi ne Do mi ni Do - mi - ne - Do - mi - ni - Be - ne dic - tus qui - ve - nit

Più adagio

No mi ne Do mi ni No mi ne Do mi ni Be ne dic - tus qui - ve nit

1 *pp*

2 *pp*

Più adagio

Be ne dic - tus - qui - ve nit venit in no mi ne

1 *p*

2 *pp*

Do - mi ni Venit in no - mi - ne

1 *dim.* *pp*

2 *pp*

Cello

Brahms Piano Concerto No 2 Opus 83 III

There is no doubt Brahms was thoroughly familiar with Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*.

The high point of the fourth section of the "Ordinary of the Mass," the Sanctus, is the *Benedictus* – "Blessed who comes in the name of the Lord."

Who can ever forget in that *Mass* the soaring solo-violin starting on a high B, *dolce cantabile*, and stepwise descending the interval of the perfect fifth in anticipation of the sacred text *Benedictus* which the Alto solo will presently announce?

In a deference equaled only by admiration for his predecessor, Brahms uses that same progression, also with the violins in the same high register over the same span of five notes but, modestly, starting one half-step lower, on B flat!

But did Brahms know the secret of Opus 106? (See above: *Vater unser*)

He certainly uses many of the procedures his predecessor employed in this third movement of the second concerto, but one piece of evidence I was unable to find.

The signature hallmark of Opus 106 is formed by the twin pillars *Nomine Domini*, tall standing sentinels that open the third movement of the *Hammerklavier* and are found at all the defining moments of the sonata-allegro form: second theme, development, recapitulation for a total of twelve times in addition to the opening measure.

To my surprise and delight, after checking Brahms' orchestral score again, I saw that the composer follows Beethoven's procedure exactly. The violas, from the very beginning, start out with *Nomine Domini* repeating it (sometimes "with the help" of other strings) all the way to the solo's entrance in m 23 and throughout the work. My analysis will show this.

So I am convinced that Brahms knew Beethoven's secret, admitting thereby that I was not the first one to make this discovery!