



1732

# MANONI THEATRE

THE MANOEL THEATRE MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE

*in association with*

THE CHORUS MELITENSIS

*PRESENT*

STABAT MATER

*BY*

ANTONIN DVORAK

Leader: GEORGE SPITERI

Chorus Instructor: BICE BISAZZA

Conductor: JOSEPH SAMMUT

THURSDAY, 31st OCTOBER, 1974

## DVORAK'S STABAT MATER

Dvorak had only reached the end of the final act of his unsuccessful opera "Wanda" when his eldest daughter died, after a brief illness. Naturally this tragic event cast a shadow over the first compositions of the following year, 1876. These were the pianoforte Trio in G minor, the string Quartet in E minor and his setting of STABAT MATER. This fine work, dedicated to the Union of Musical Artists, his real memorial to his daughter, was sketched out between 19th February and 7th May 1876 and not finally completed until 13th November 1877.

Stabat Mater is the first oratorio of modern Czech music. It was destined to bring Dvorak world-wide fame especially in England. The first performance at Prague was delayed until 23rd December 1880.

This first Czech oratorio opens with a poetical prelude, pictorial in its widely spaced unisons in the first bars, which suggest the Mother gazing up at the Cross. It is emotional in its chromatic theme and rising tide of feeling. The melodic appeal is perfectly frank, sincere as well as fresh.

The opening chorus, twenty-five slowly moving pages of vocal score with its chromatic theme and verbal repetitions is an expression of grief. In the succeeding chain of solos, concerted pieces and choruses one is alternately enchanted by the sheer melodic beauty of the music and by Dvorak's feeling for the voice, for which he always writes beautifully and effectively.

The final movement 'Quando Corpus Morietur' is closely related thematically to the opening chorus. Dvorak chooses to end quietly and beautifully.



Available from:

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# STABAT MATER

Cantata for Soloists  
Chorus and Orchestra

Opus 58

Soprano

Mezzosoprano

Tenor

Bass

ANTOINETTE MIGGIANI

MARIE THERESE VASSALLO

ANDREW SAPIANO

JOE VELLA BONDIN

I. *Stabat Mater Dolorosa* — Andante con moto — Quartetto —  
Coro.

II. *Qui est homo qui non fleret* — Andante sostenuto — Quartetto.

III. *Eja Mater fons amoris* — Andante con moto — Coro.

IV. *Fac ut ardeat cor meum* — Largo — Basso solo — Coro.

V. *Tui Nati vulnerati* — Andante con moto, quasi allegretto —  
Coro.

VI. *Fac me vere tecum flere* — Andante con moto — Tenore solo,  
Coro.

VII. *Virgo virginum praeclara* — Largo — Coro.

VIII. *Fac ut portem Christi mortem* — Larghetto — Duetto — Soprano,  
Tenore.

IX. *Inflammatum et accensum* — Andante maestoso — Basso solo.

X. *Quando corpus morietur* — Andante con moto — Quartetto,  
Coro.

MANOEL THEATRE MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

M.T.M.C. IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA —  
**QUINTET RECITAL BY "L'INSIEME DI FIRENZE"** — Friday, 1st November,  
at 7.30 p.m.

MALTA TALENT ARTISTES — **INT MIN INT?** — Sunday, 3 November, at 6.30 p.m.

M.T.M.C. IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE BRITISH COUNCIL — **TWO DIFFERENT  
BALLET PROGRAMMES BY BELINDA WRIGHT AND JELKO YURESHA**  
— Saturday, 9th at 7.30 p.m.; Sunday, 10th November, at 6.30 p.m.

MALTA THEATRICAL COMPANY — **HTIEĠA TA' RAĠEL** --- Friday, 15th;  
Saturday 16th; Sunday, 17th November, at 6.30 p.m.



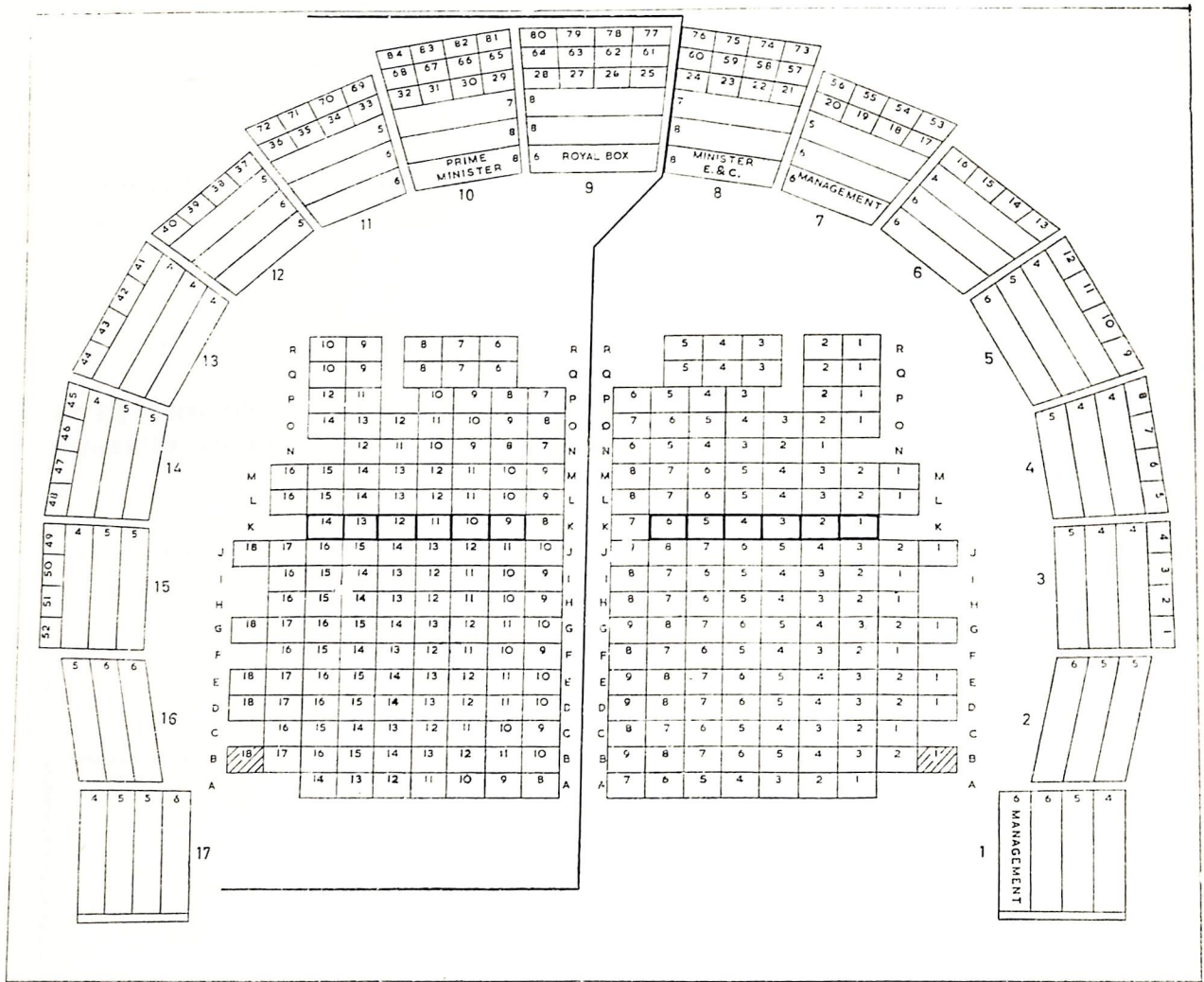
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### MANOEL THEATRE BOOKING PLAN

Late comers will not be admitted to the Auditorium.

*Smoking is not permitted in the Auditorium, in Boxes and in the Gallery.*

The Management reserve the right to vary or omit any part of the programme without previous notice.

*Patrons are reminded that the taking of photographs during the performance is not allowed.*

Children even when accompanied by their parents, will be required to occupy a seat.

