

*Commissioned by and dedicated to Margareta Raab  
and the Girls' Choir of Uppsala Cathedral*

Luke 1:46–55

# Magnificat

Mattias Sjöberg  
(b.1971)

**With a warm flow**  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 78$

The musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are for vocal parts: Soprano I (treble clef), Soprano II (treble clef), and Alto (treble clef). The bottom staff is for the Organ (bass clef). The key signature is four flats. The tempo is indicated as  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 78$ . The dynamics are *mp* (mezzo-forte) for the vocal parts and *p* (piano) for the organ. The lyrics "Ma - gni - fi - cat\_ a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num," are written below the vocal parts. The organ part features sustained notes with grace notes and a long sustained note at the end.

The musical score continues with the organ playing. Measure 5 starts with a rest followed by a dynamic *p non cresc.* The lyrics "sa - lu - ta - - - ri me - o," are followed by another dynamic *p non cresc.* The lyrics "et ex-sul-ta-vit spi-ri-tus me-us in De - o sa - lu - ta - - - ri me - o," are then played. The score then transitions to a new section with a different harmonic structure, indicated by a change in key signature and time signature markings (5/8, 3/4).

## **Composer's Note**

The Magnificat is set in a lively and youthful spirit, with dance-like rhythms and an outgoing spirit, reflecting the young Virgin Mary's prophesy of hope.

The Nunc dimittis, in contrast, reflects the elderly Simeon seeing his prophesies, made earlier in his life, come to pass. The music itself also looks back to what has gone before, setting the text to elements of fauxbourdon and polyphony, building a form of circle around the text 'the light of all people'.

### Durations:

Magnificat: c. 4' 30"

Nunc dimittis: c. 3' 40"

*Commissioned by musical director Margareta Raab of Uppsala Cathedral  
to be performed at a joint service with the two girls choirs of the cathedrals  
of Uppsala and Västerås in May 2020.*