

# Border Marches Early Music Forum

## *Commissa mea pavesco*

### I tremble at my misdeeds

Motets by **Rogier and Magalhães**

With tutor David Allinson

An on-line workshop for singers,

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January

7.30–9.00pm

As everyone knows, miserable music is the most enjoyable to sing. So why not dispel the darkness of a midwinter evening with some deliciously penitential polyphony from early modern Iberia?

**Philippe Rogier** (d.1596) worked for Philip II of Spain and was one of the last great Franco-Flemish polyphonists. His brilliantly rhetorical *Laboravi in gemitu meo* is sufficiently powerful that Thomas Morley thought to pass it off as his own work, with only minor tweaks. **Filipe de Magalhães** (d.1652) trained at Évora alongside Cardoso and Duarte Lobo, yet *Grove Dictionary* reckons him to be ‘perhaps the greatest Portuguese composer of his time’. Certainly, *Commissa mea pavesco* is an unforgettable thunderbolt of emotion.

Both motets are dramatic outpourings, laden with emotive dissonances and exquisite suspensions which are a joy to sing. As with our *O sacrum convivium* session in November, David will briefly introduce each piece and draw out points of technical interest, moments of special beauty and vocal challenge, but the bulk of the session will be spent singing (muted) together.

David is a highly experienced workshop leader and lecturer, an expert in the cultural and technical history of Renaissance music. Expect this session to mix theory and practice, with humane and humorous touches.

We will use these editions:

F. Magalhães, *Commissa mea pavesco*

<https://www.cpd.org/wiki/images/c/cb/Maga-com.pdf>

P. Rogier, *Laboravi in gemitu*

<https://www.cpd.org/wiki/images/f/fb/Rog-labt2.pdf>

There is no charge for attending this workshop, but, we invite donations to cover costs. Details of how to pay are on the application form. BMEMF will donate any surplus to the charity Help Musicians UK. (If paying in GBP from another currency would incur a bank charge, you are welcome to contribute directly to Help Musicians UK via their website.)

Booking closes midnight 20<sup>th</sup> January: book directly on line with Jotform at <https://form.jotform.com/210082157186351>

Acknowledgement of your applications will be sent by return, and instructions for logging on and participating will be sent nearer the time. We'll be recording the session, so if you can't make it on the day, you will be able to watch the recording when we send the link to all who signed up. But NB - for copyright reasons, the recording is only available to those who have applied via JotForm. For queries, please contact me:



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