

O beata infantia - 2

ex - su - da - sti.

Range:

A musical staff with a treble clef. The first line (G4) has a whole note, and the second line (A4) has a whole note. The staff is labeled with an '8' below the first line, indicating an octave shift.

O beata infantia

O beata infantia
O blessed infancy

electi Disibodi,
of the chosen Disibod

que a Deo ita inspirata est
that by God so inspired was

quod postea sanctissima opera
because [that] thereafter the holiest works

in mirabilibus Dei
among the wonders of God

ut suavissimum odorem balsami exsudasti.
as [like] the sweetest scent of balsam you exuded

O blessed infancy
of the chosen Disibod,
that was so inspired by God
that thereafter
you exuded the holiest works
among the wonders of God
like the sweetest scent of balsam.

translation: Honey Meconi

L	liquescence
O	oriscus
PL	pressus liquescens
PM	pressus maior
Q	quilisma
VS	virga strata

MUSIC SOURCE: Riesencodex, fols. 470vb–471ra

GENRE: the genre is identified in the manuscript as an ANTIPHON.

SUBJECT: the subject is not labelled in the manuscript but is ST. DISIBOD.

NOTES

1. The three pitches for the first syllable "a" in "beAta" consist of a punctum, oriscus, and virga, thus forming a rare salicus in Hildegard's works.
2. The scribe neglected to add the final pitch of "postea." The likeliest pitch is "e."

3. The scribe incorrectly wrote the syllable "mi" of "balsami" twice. The first appearance, over the climacus resupinus on "d c b c," is likely the extraneous one.

COMMENTS

a. KSW transposes the work up a fifth and adds an F# signature accidental, with frequent editorial suggestions of F natural.

b. Corrigan wonders whether the "sua" of "suavissima" is intended as one syllable or two, but the use of a quilisma prepunctis for "sua" suggests the intention of a single syllable.

c. *O beata infantia* is followed by a differentia in the manuscript, but the differentia actually belongs to the following piece, *O felix apparicio*. Pfau, KSW, and Lieder erroneously include the differentia with *O beata infantia*, with Lieder transposing it up a fourth.

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