

Ludovico Balbi
(c.1545 - 1604)

Saule, Saule, quid me
persequeris?

à7

Transcribed and edited by Lewis Jones

Source: Schadeus, A. and Vincenti, C. (eds.) (1613) *Promptuarii musici pars tertia*, Strassburg. Kieffer and Ledertz. No. 67.

The music:

Saule, Saule is taken from the section in the *Promptuarii* that contains motets appropriate for the Conversion of Saul. The setting is competent but unremarkable save for the word-painting at "stimulum calcitrare": Saul's waywardness is represented by short triplet passages set against the prevailing duple time of the motet.

Critical commentary: Comprised of source readings not retained in the Edition. Given in the order Bar, Part, Object, Comment.

Part designation, 5, 2. *cho.*/13,A,2, E/16,Bg,3-4, 4 3/23,Bg,3-4, 6 5/31,Bg,2, 3.

Editorial method and notes:

Original part names, note durations, time signatures and pitch have been retained. Clefs have been modernised and the music has been barred regularly according to the time signature. Original clefs and key signatures are displayed in prefatory staves. The range of each vocal part is given in black stemless notes before the initial time signature.

Editorial accidentals appear above the staff, and courtesy accidentals appear in parentheses. Original accidentals made redundant by modern barring conventions have been omitted without comment. Source sharps have been respelled as naturals in the appropriate places.

Spelling and punctuation appear as they do in the source, but are standardised. Ditto marks in the source have been expanded using italics. Ligatures appear as continuous square brackets above the staff, coloration as interrupted square brackets.

Figuring appears as it does in the original, with two exceptions. Firstly, it appears exclusively below the staff, according to the current convention. Secondly, chromatic major thirds are consistently spelled as # rather than 3: these instances are recorded in the Critical commentary.

Text and translation:

Saule, Saule, quid me persequeris?

Quid dixit: Quis es Domine?

Et ille: Ego sum Jesus Nazarenus, quem tu persequeris:

durum est tibi contra stimulum calcitrare.

"Saul, Saul, why dost thou persecute me?"

He said: "Who art thou, Lord?"

The reply came: "I am Jesus of Nazareth whom thou persecutest:

hard it is for thee to kick against the pricks*."

*Alternatively, "the goad": a sharp stick used to persuade reluctant cattle.

Acts 9: 4-5, 26: 14-15

Liturgical use: conversion of Saul.

Saule, Saule, quid me persequeris?

Ludovico Balbi

The musical score is written for eight parts. The vocal parts are Cantus, Quinta vox (2. Cantus), Altus, Septima vox (2. Altus), Tenor, and Sexta vox (2. Tenor). The instrumental parts are Bassis and Bassis generalis. The score is in common time (C) and the key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "Sau - le, Sau - le, quid me per - se - que - ris? quid Sau - - le, Sau - le, quid me per - Sau - - le,". The Cantus part has the most lyrics, while the other parts have fewer or none. The Bassis generalis part has the most notes, providing a harmonic foundation for the other parts.

Cantus
Sau - le, Sau - le, quid me per - se - que - ris? quid

Quinta vox
(2. Cantus)
Sau - - le, Sau - le, quid me per -

Altus
Sau - - le,

Septima vox
(2. Altus)

Tenor

Sexta vox
(2. Tenor)

Bassis

Bassis generalis

5

C. me per - se - - que - ris? quid me per - se - que - ris? quid

5. se - que - ris? Sau - le, Sau - le, quid me per -

A. Sau - le, quid me per - se - que - ris? Sau - - le, Sau - le, quid me per -

7. Sau - le, Sau -

T. Sau - - le, Sau - le, quid me per - se - que - ris?

6. Sau - - le, Sau - le, quid me per - se - que -

B.

7 6

10

C. me per - se - - que - ris? Quid di - -

5. se - - que - ris, quid me per - se - - que - ris?

A. se - que - ris? Quid di - -

7. le, quid me per - se - que - ris, quid me per - se - que - ris?

T. quid me per - se - - que - ris?

6. ris? Quid di - -

B. Sau - le, Sau - le, quid me per - se - que - ris?

7 6 3 4 4 3

15

C.
xit: et il - - - - - le:

5.
Quis es Do - - - mi - ne?

A.
xit: et il - - - le:

7.
Quis es Do - mi - ne? E - go

T.
Quis es Do - - - mi - ne? E - go sum

6.
xit: et il - - - - - le:

B.
Quis es Do - mi - ne? E - go

7 6 4 # 7 6 6

20

C.
E - go sum Je - - - sus Na - za - re - nus, e -

5.
E - go sum Je - - - sus Na - za - re - - -

A.
E - go sum Je - sus Na - za -

7.
sum Je - sus Na - za - re - - - nus,

T.
Je - - - sus Na - za - re - - - nus,

6.
E - go sum Je - - - sus Na - za -

B.
sum Je - sus Na - za - re - - - nus,

6 8 6 5 6 5 6 6

25

C. *- go sum Je - sus Na - za - re - - - nus, quem tu*

5. *nus, quem tu per - se - que - ris, quem*

A. *re - - nus, Je - - - sus Na - za - re - nus, quem tu*

7. *Je - - - sus Na - - - - za - re -*

T. *Je - sus, Je - sus Na - za - re - - - nus, quem*

6. *re - - nus, Je - - - sus Na - za - re - -*

B. *Je - sus Na - - - za - re - nus, quem tu*

7 6 4 3 5

30

C. *per - se - - que - ris: du - rum est ti - bi con - tra*

5. *tu per - se - que - ris, quem tu per - se - que - ris:*

A. *per - se - que - ris: du - rum est ti - -*

7. *nus, quem tu per - se - que - ris: du - rum est ti - - - bi,*

T. *tu per - se - - que - ris: du - rum est ti -*

6. *-nus quem tu per - se - que - ris: du - rum*

B. *per - se - - que - ris:*

6 # 4 4 # 5 6 5 6

35

C. *sti - mu-lum cal - ci-tra - re,* *du - rum est ti -*

5. *du - rum est ti - bi con -*

A. *-bi,* *du - rum est ti - - - bi con -*

7. *du - rum est ti - bi con - tra sti - mu lum cal - ci-tra - re,*

T. *bi con - tra sti - mu-lum cal - ci-tra - re,* *du - rum*

6. *est ti - bi con - - tra sti - mu-lum cal - ci - tra - re,*

B. *du - rum est ti - - bi con - tra sti - mu-lum*

6

40

C. *bi con - - tra sti - mu - lum cal -*

5. *tra sti - mu-lum cal - ci - tra - re,* *con - tra sti -*

A. *-tra sti - mu-lum cal - ci - tra - re,* *con - - tra sti - mu -*

7. *con - - - tra sti - mu-lum cal - ci - tra - re,* *con - - tra*

T. *est ti - - bi con - tra sti - mu - lum*

6. *con - - tra sti - - - -*

B. *cal - cit - ra - re,* *con - - tra sti - mu -*

43

C. - ci - tra - re.

5. mu - lum cal - ci - tra - re.

A. lum cal - ci - tra - re.

7. sti - mu - lum cal - ci - tra - re.

T. cal - ci - tra - re.

6. - mu - lum cal - ci - tra - re.

B. lum cal - ci - tra - re.

lum cal - ci - tra - re.