# Requiem

in D minor, Opus 48

(1888/1893 version)

Gabriel Fauré

(1845 - 1924)

Edited by Philip Legge

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Dispensible:

Timpani

Harp

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Orchestra		
1888 version	1893 additions	
Essential: Organ Violin solo (3)	Essential: Horns I, II	(1, 3, 5–7)
Violar solo Viola solo Violas I, II Violoncellos I, II Double basses	Dispensible: Horns III, IV 2 Bassoons 2 Trumpets	(3, 5-7) (3-5, 7) (1, 3)

3 Trombones

Timpani

(1) (3, 4, 7) (6)

(6)



3 Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)



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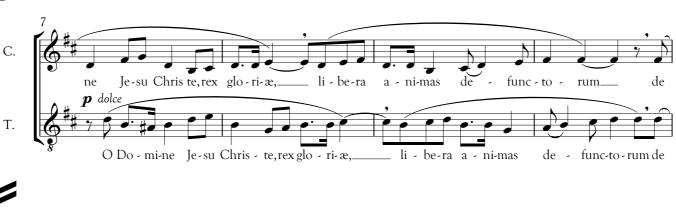


#### II. OFFERTOIRE

#### Adagio molto ( = 48)





































### III. SANCTUS































































































































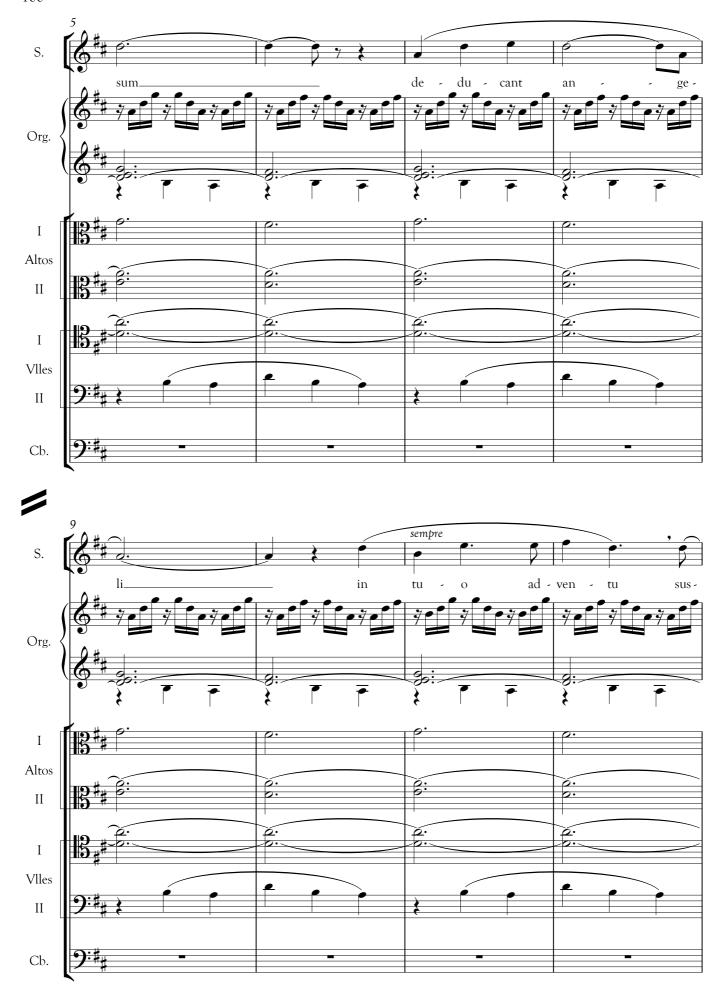








Andante moderato ( = 58) 2 Bassons I, II 4 Cors en Fa III, IV Harpe  $m{p}$  dolce **SOPRANOS** Sopranos Áltos In di pa ra -Ténors Basses Orgue Andante moderato (J = 58)Alto solo sourdines I Altos sourdines II **p** sourdines I **p** sourdines Violoncelles Π p Contrebasses

















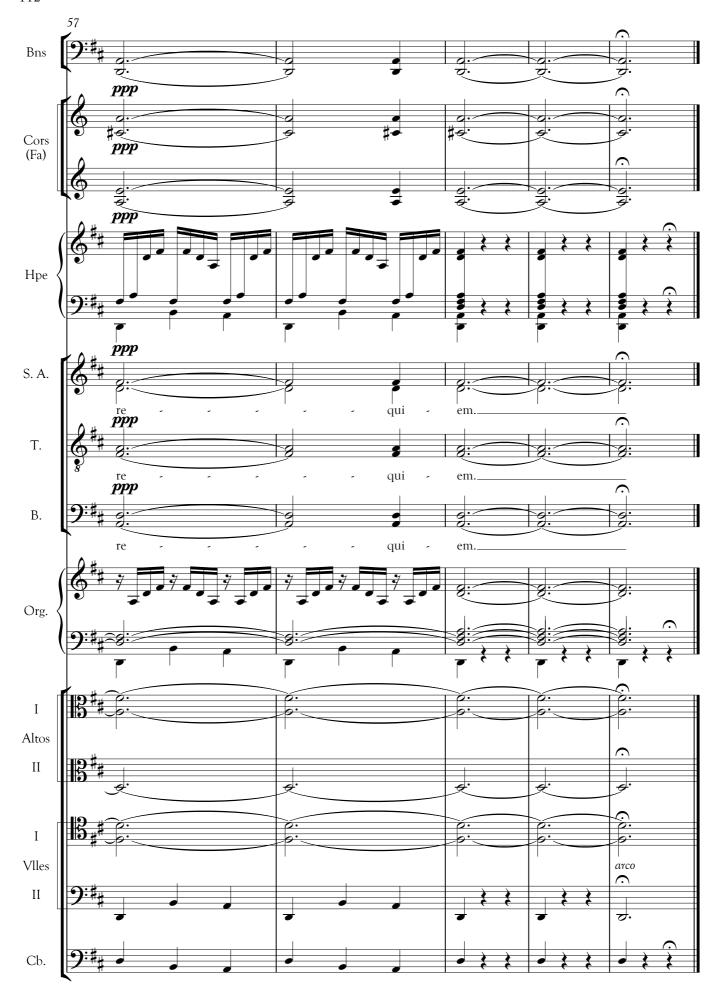












# Editorial notes

This edition is intended as a performance edition, and not as the last word in scholarly interpretation of Fauré's work. Although the *Requiem* is an acknowledged masterpiece, sadly it was treated in a fashion very unworthy of a master when it was finally published in 1900 by the firm of J. Hamelle, and thus the need for an "1888/1893" edition needs to be explained.

The composition, revisions, and publishing of the *Requiem* stretches out over three decades of Fauré's life. The first movement to be composed was the *Libera me*, scored in 1877 for baritone solo and organ. The main bulk of composition occurred over the winter of 1887/88, when Fauré scored the *Introït et Kyrie*, *Sanctus*, *Pie Jesu*, *Agnus Dei*, and *In paradisum* (the original title page confirms the *Pie Jesu* as being composed at this point). The recent death of his mother, and also of his father two years earlier in 1885, must have given Fauré the desire to compose a consolatory "petit Requiem", as he described it in an 1888 letter to his friend Paul Poujard. Fauré consciously chose to refrain from setting the *Dies iræ*, which French tradition had usually incorporated; instead he detached and slightly modified the final couplet. Four of the manuscripts of the five-movement *Requiem* are extant today, preserved in the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris:

Ms. 410, Introït et Kyrie, undated; scoring: chœur, 2 altos, 2 violoncelles, contrebasse, timbales et orgue.

Ms. 411, Sanctus, dated 8 January 1888; scoring: chœur, violon solo, 2 altos, 2 violoncelles, contrebasse, harpe et orgue.

Ms. 412, Agnus Dei, dated 6 January 1888; scoring: chœur, 2 altos, 2 violoncelles, contrebasse et orgue.

Ms. 413, In paradisum, undated; scoring: chœur, alto solo, 2 altos, 2 violoncelles, contrebasse, harpe et orgue.

The first performance of the five-movement *Requiem* occurred on 16 January 1888 for a funeral service held at the church of the Madeleine in Paris, where Fauré was choirmaster. The orchestral and choral forces probably conformed to those listed above, aside from a soprano soloist in the *Pie Jesu*. The solo violin and timpani play in only one movement, presumably as one of the singers or players were able to be redeployed to take on these parts. In 1889 Fauré composed the *Offertoire*, scored for the same choral-orchestral forces as the *Agnus Dei* above, and introducing a baritone soloist for the central *Hostias* verse.

The Requiem reached its enlarged seven-movement form when Fauré added his 1877 Libera me; the Fauré scholar Jean-Michel Nectoux believes this to have occurred in the early 1890s — I would guess late-1892 — and this orchestral revision enlarges the forces with a brass section minus trumpets and tuba, i.e. the typical horn quartet and trombone æquali. The Libera me with brass is therefore the only movement in which Fauré explicitly envisages larger orchestral forces, since at least two horns are necessary for the Dies illa passage; the other six movements more readily conform to his initial 1888 idea of a "petit Requiem".

The Requiem was first performed in seven-movement guise in January 1893, with an orchestra evidently employing the larger forces of the Libera me. This is confirmed by additions to the four manuscripts of 1888, which have a miscellany of extra instrumentation apparently notated in Fauré's hand, almost certainly corresponding to the 1893 performance, and which therefore date from late 1892 or January 1893. According to John Rutter these additions include 2 bassoons, 2 trumpets, variously 2 or 4 horns, and a section of violins (more on this below). The manuscripts of the Offertoire, Pie Jesu, and the revised Libera me do not survive, however the Offertoire conforms in scoring to the 1888 forces, and no brass are employed in the Pie Jesu, where they would be inimical to Fauré's treatment of the subject:

Introït et Kyrie: 2 horns, 2 trumpets.

Sanctus: 2 bassoons, 4 horns, 2 trumpets.

Agnus Dei: 2 bassoons, 4 horns.

*In paradisum*: 2 bassoons, 4 horns. Moreover, in addition to the viola solo, there is a part to be played by a *section* of violins.

It seems absurd for an entire section of violins to have sat around for the previous six movements just to play 18 or so bars in the final movement, yet according to Rutter and Nectoux, the manuscript clearly says *violons*. Perhaps the violin "section" was little more than one or two desks. We may also assume (owing to the loss of the manuscript for *Pie Jesu*) that the 1893 additions consisted solely of a pair of bassoons — unless Fauré had a certain number of choristers on hand who were able to play flute and clarinet in the one movement where they would not be required to sing. In any case, the woodwind parts add nothing to the music already contained in the harp, string, and organ parts.

The next developments occurred at the very end of the 1890s, when the publisher Hamelle expressed an interest in printing the work. It is assumed that Hamelle may have suggested that the orchestration be revised to something more resembling the "standard" orchestra, in the hope of securing more frequent performance as a work for the concert hall.

In 1898 we find Fauré agreeing to prepare the *Requiem* for publication and asking to be relieved of the necessary task of providing a piano reduction for the vocal scores. After this however, there seems to be no evidence that Fauré took any part in preparing the final version, which was printed shortly after its première in July 1900, conducted by Taffanel. The orchestration was certainly recast from the 1888 manuscript and its additions, and the task of creating the piano reduction had indeed been turned over to one of Fauré's students, Roger-Ducasse. A 1900 letter from Fauré to the conductor Ysaÿe laments the errors in the vocal score, so there seems to be every indication that the normally punctilious Fauré not only neglected to examine the proofs of the vocal score; in all likelihood, he did not prepare the orchestral version, nor did he proof-read the full score, which in all honesty resembles a first draft more than a finished piece of work.

Hamelle's full score is handily available as a 1992 reprint by Dover Publications, Inc, of Mineola, New York, ISBN 0-486-27155-2, and likewise a reprint of the original vocal score is published by United Music Publishers, 33 Lea Street, Waltham Abbey, Essex. Owing to the lack of autograph sources for the Offertoire, Pie Jesu, and Libera me, these scores are essentially the earliest primary sources for these movements until such time as the composer's manuscripts are rediscovered (if they ever come to light).

The full score is printed on 128 single-system pages of continuous 23-stave score (expanded to 24 staves for the *Libera me*); aside from the initial designation of instruments at the start of each movement, no attempt is made to indicate instruments on each new page, or to reduce the contents of a system to just those instruments playing. The number of misprints and obvious mistakes is astounding; there seems to be hardly a page where one cannot find multiple errors in the musical text, let alone infelicities of slipshod engraving! The instrumentation of each movement is as follows, but it is not at all accurate:

I\_ *Introït et Kyrie*, pp. 1-22: flûtes, clarinettes, 2 bassons, 4 cors, 2 trompettes, 3 trombones, timbales, harpes, chœur (*i.e.*, sopranos, altos, tenors, basses), violons 1 & 2 (n.b. sharing a single stave), alto 1 & 2, violoncelle 1 & 2, contrebasse, orgue.

II\_ Offertoire, pp. 23-44: as above, plus baryton solo (initially replacing the soprano line, confining the choir to three staves rather than four).

III\_Sanctus, pp. 45-60: as above for the *Introït*, however the reinstated soprano is incorrectly described as "Soprano Solo".

IV Pie Jesu, pp. 61-69: as above for the Sanctus, though here the designation of a soprano solo is correct.

V Agnus Dei, pp. 70-91: as above for the Introït.

VI\_ *Libera me*, pp. 92-113: the same as for the *Offertoire*, but here the baryton solo is engraved on an additional stave, not replacing the soprano part.

VII. In paradisum, pp. 114-128: as above for the Introït.

In fact, the enlarged full orchestra is used extremely half-heartedly. Flutes and clarinets play in 12 bars of the *Pie Jesu* at the very utmost — the second clarinet appears to be needed for just 4 bars! — bassoons play in just the *Introït*, *Pie Jesu*, and *Agnus Dei*. (If Rutter and Nectoux are correct in ascribing bassoon additions to the 1888 manuscripts of the *Sanctus* and *In paradisum*, then these parts have been *excised* from the 1900 full score!)

The full quartet of horns appear in the *Introït*, *Sanctus*, *Agnus Dei*, and *Libera me*, but again by examination of the 1893 additions, appear to have been excised from the *In paradisum*. The trumpets appear in only those movements known already from 1893, the *Introït* and *Sanctus*. The trombones appear in only the *Libera me*, where they are almost completely doubled by the horns, excepting the phrases from bar 58 to bar 69, which are doubled by organ. The timpani are retained in the *Libera me*, but are excised from the *Introït*.

The violins now feature in all movements except the *Introït*, *Offertoire*, and *Pie Jesu*, but apart from absorbing the solo parts in the *Sanctus* and *In paradisum*, they add virtually nothing to the existing music for the violas and cellos. It seems plausible that Fauré himself might have decided (back in 1893) which lines could be "stripped" from the viola and cello parts and adapted, where necessary, to be playable on violins. Like much of the other recasting of musical elements in the 1900 version, however, the music transferred to the violins appears to have been chosen completely arbitrarily, in addition to being rendered inexpertly.

To summarise the history of the composition so far: all three versions utilise 2 violas, 2 cellos, double bass, and organ throughout. The disposition of the remaining forces in each version is:

Movement	Additional instrur 1888	ments required: 1893	Additions and <i>excisions</i> : 1900
<ol> <li>Introït et Kyrie</li> <li>Offertoire</li> <li>Sanctus</li> <li>Pie Jesu</li> </ol>	timp – harp, vln solo harp	+ 2 hn, 2 tpt - + 2 bsn, 4 hn, 2 tpt [+ 2 fl, 2 cl, 2 bsn ?]	+ 2 bsn, + 3° & 4° hn; - timp - + vlns; - 2 bsn, - vln solo
5. Agnus Dei 6. Libera me 7. In paradisum	[at least 2 horns] harp, vla solo	+ 2 bsn, 4 hn + 4 hn, 3 trb, timp + 2 bsn, 4 hn, vlns	+ vlns + vlns <b>- 2 bsn 4 hn vla solo</b>

This much only describes when the additional instruments play, i.e., in which movements; the question of what music they are supposed to play has hardly been addressed. Fauré clearly intended his 1888 "petit Requiem" to be played by a chamber-sized orchestra: the organ plays throughout and contains the complete harmonisation, so that the five-part string ensemble is really accompanying the organ, not the other way around. The string group could actually consist of as few as three violas, two cellos and one double bass, if one of the violists can also play violin, for the solo in the Sanctus. The other instruments in the 1888 version, timpani and harp, are dispensible but every effort should be made to include them if such an attempt is practical for the concert-giving organisation. If the Libera me is performed using just the 1888 forces, then the organ must incorporate the horn calls of the Dies illa passage starting at bar 52, and likewise it is preferable for the organ to sound the trumpet and horn fanfares in the Sanctus rather than play in unison with the strings from bar 42 to bar 51.

If the *Requiem* is to be performed by anything approaching a normal-sized symphony orchestra, the second version of 1893 is very much to be preferred to the third version of 1900. As discussed, there is no evidence to suggest Fauré actually prepared the final version, in sharp contrast to the additions to the four surviving autograph manuscripts of the 1888 version. The only sources of the third version are the printed full score and vocal score; no manuscript of the 1900 version exists. Finally, the nature of the 1893 additions allows a greater deal of flexibility for smaller or amateur orchestras, if we consider each movement in turn:

#### 1. Introït et Kyrie

The 1893 additions consist of just a pair each of horns and trumpets, so the 1900 parts are slightly rewritten to render the third and fourth horn parts dispensible (especially useful if only two horns and no other brass are available; two horns is the essential minimum for the Libera me). However, given a choice between having third and fourth horns available or having two trumpets, then in the context of the entire work a horn quartet is very much the preferred option. The bassoon parts, like the third and fourth horn, also hail from 1900 and merely double the previous existing string and organ parts; they are best omitted.

*N.B.* About four or so bars of the trumpet parts in this movement are fundamentally different from the horn parts (at bars 38 and 61; *cf* the note on the brass in *Sanctus*). Thus, if a horn quartet is used rather than two horns and two trumpets, then the third and fourth horn players should be instructed to play the optional parts provided in these bars (not indicated in this score).

The 1888 timpani part was excised from the 1900 version for no apparent reason and is fairly understated in any case; it is worth reinstating, and in the editor's opinion is suitable for some slight elaboration, to give a slightly more palpable sense of presence and tension; Fauré's admirable sense of reticence is underlined, rather than unduly emphasised by the additions.

# 2. Offertoire

There is no evidence to suggest that this movement was ever altered subsequent to its composition, so the 1900 version is taken fairly much as read, aside from correction of the inevitable mistakes.

#### 3. Sanctus

The 4 horns and 2 trumpets added in 1893 presumably were unchanged in the 1900 version; the parts for 2 bassoons however were omitted, and there is a clue to their original nature in that the brass play in unison, but the piano reduction shows the same fanfare in octaves. Thus the bassoons are reinstated to double the brass fanfare an octave below.

*N.B.* The trumpets here sound at the same pitch and octave class as the horns (unlike the passages aforementioned in the *Introït*); thus making the trumpets dispensible in terms of notes if not for their distinct timbre. In point of fact the six specified instruments never depart from unison.

#### 4. Pie Jesu

The 1900 version is the only source for this movement, so the provenance of the woodwind can only be regarded as a matter for speculation. The flutes and clarinets are of trivial importance in the context of the entire work, and can be added if absolutely desired; there is no need to include them here in an 1888/1893 version, as logic suggests that if flutes and clarinets had been available in 1893 Fauré would probably have written parts for them in some of the other movements, and the four surviving manuscripts do not substantiate this. The bassoons however *do* appear in three of these manuscripts; however, I am not convinced that the part here adds anything to Fauré's scoring of the *Pie Jesu*, and personally would be inclined to omit them.

### 5. Agnus Dei

The 1893 additions comprise the full complement of bassoons and horns, and a slight rewriting has been made to render the third and fourth horns almost entirely dispensible, though as noted above four horns are to be preferred. The very opening of the *Requiem* is recalled at bar 75, and although this suggests the addition of a timpani part (to match the similar part there), the emphasis is not needed here, as the musical reprise is by no means exact.

This movement has had the most extensive violin part added in the 1900 version, which occasionally robs the first viola of the melodic limelight. The string texture however is usually in five parts, the exceptions being bars 29 and 30, where the violin part is shuffled to first cello divisi; and the passage from bar 54 to bar 60, where a six-part texture is transferred into the five string parts again by means of dividing the first cellos.

## 6. Libera me

The 1900 version is the only source for this movement, but the brass additions are a fairly safe assumption as they stand, especially as a pair of horns is indispensable for the *Dies illa* passage. The trombones are dispensible; a thrifty orchestra with two trombones could have the fourth horn swap back and forth to cover the third trombone part from bar 58 onward; beginning at bar 89, the trombones are mostly in unison with the first, second and third horns.

The timpani part seems to come to a premature conclusion at bar 124, when earlier we have seen it accompany the choir and strings in the transition beginning at bar 84. I have tentatively extended the part to the end of the movement, which may be modified or omitted at the discretion of the conductor.

The violin part may have been written in 1893 rather than being an addition in 1900. Until bar 70 it is either silent or in unison with the first viola; from here until the first note of bar 85 there is a three-part violin and double viola rhythmic figure repeating above the cellos and double bass, with violin and first viola mostly in unison, but from bar 78 onwards the three parts are unique. Consequently they are re-arranged for just two violas, with the majority of double-stopping work going into the first viola. The violin part also jumps in contrary motion to the violas — possibly owing to some notes being unplayable? — so the new parts here use the wider compass available to the viola. The last section of the movement with pizzicato strings presented almost no problems, as again violin mostly doubles first viola or occasionally the second, with the exception of notes that are unplayable on the violin; only bars 121 and 122 required anything other than a straight-forward transcription to again combine three unique parts into two.

# 7. In paradisum

All of the 1893 additions to this movement were excised in the 1900 version, and the nature of what the parts for horn quartet might be like exerted a considerable fascination for the editor, who has speculated that they reinforce the lower voices of the choir at the conclusion of each half of the movement. A minimal attempt has been made to reconstruct the bassoon parts to support the final chords, rather than having the second bass sing the dominant of the triad unsupported by a tonic. The rearrangement of the string parts was made obvious by the varying disposition of voicings at the outset of each half of the movement; again an apparent six-part string section was easily re-arranged into Fauré's five parts plus solo.

## FINAL NOTES

This is currently a work in progress! The eventual aim is to consult a microfiche of the original manuscripts held in the French National Library to verify the nature of the 1888 string parts and the subsequent additions.

The organ part is partially incomplete, most notably in Agnus Dei, but also in the Intoït, and there may be some dynamic and expression marks missing elsewhere. The other orchestral and vocal parts however should be complete in all movements.

I would like to acknowledge an obvious debt to the work of John Rutter in studying aspects of the *Requiem*; however this edition is completely independent of it, aside from one or two hints on revoicing the string parts, as I have preferred to work backwards from the 1900 version towards finding the elusive goal of an equally satisfying alternate solution.