

Title has OpenType features **titl** (Titling Capitals) and **dlig** (Discretionary Ligatures)

All text has **hist** (Historical Forms). The Drop Cap has **ss12** (Heavy Capitals).

Variant forms of *a* and other letters applied semi-randomly.

t with flourish at line-end applied with **swsh** (Swash).

Heading 1 style is 16pt with **hist**.

Alternate *r* in *rostro* made with **salt** (Stylistic Alternates).

Alternate capital *H* made with **salt**.

Alternate *n* made with **salt** and **swsh**.

Alternate *n* of *serena* made with **salt** only. Alternate capital *P* made with **salt**.

Insular *s* (*r*) of *cuculus* made with **ss02**.

ALCVIN

CONFLICTVS VERIS ET HIEMIS

Conubiu[m] subito cunctq[ue] de montibus alq[ue]
pastores pecudum uerina[m] luce sub umbra
arborum, pauciter lætas celebra[n]te Camenas.
adfuit et iuuenis Clafnis s[er]moneque Palemon:
omnes hi cuculo laudes cantare parabant.
ueri quoque florifero succinctus stemmate uenit,
frigidæ uenit Hiems, frigidis hirsutæ capillis.
his certamen erat cuculi de caumine grande:
ueri prius adlusit terenos modulamine uersus.

Ven

Opto meus ueniat cuculus, caussimus ales.
omnibus iste solet fieri gratissimus hospes
in tectis, modulans n[ost]ro d[omi]na caumina n[ost]ro.

Hiems

Tum læciæ Hiems respondit uoce seueræ:
non ueniat cuculus, nigrus sed dormiat aterus.
iste faciem secum semper portare suescit.

Ven

Opto meus ueniat cuculus cum germine læto,
frigoræ depellat, Phœbo comes ælms in æuum.
Phœbus amat cuculum crescent[em] luce serena.

Hiems

Non ueniat cuculus, generat quia forte labores,
phœbæ congemina[n]t, nequiem disiungit amantem,
omnia disturbat; pelagi terrenaque labores.

Note that Kerning (**kern**), Contextual Alternates (**calt**) and Standard Ligatures (**liga**) should be on at all times. In MS Word, enable them on the “Advanced” tab of the “Font” dialog.

The large ampersand is actually a Discretionary Ligature of *Et*.

This variant of *Q* should appear rarely. To make it disappear, turn off Contextual Alternates (**calt**) for the word *Quis*.

Several OpenType features to which MS Word does not provide access are duplicated in Cissanthemos as Stylistic Sets:

ss09 = Titling Capitals
ss12 = Swash
ss16 = Historical Forms
ss18 = Stylistic Alternates

Ven

Quid tu, tardus hiems, cuculo conuicta cantas?
qui torporis ignavi tenebris tectus in atrijs
post epulas Veneris, post stulta pocula Bacchi.

hiems

Sunt mihi diuitiae, sunt et conuiuia laeta,
est nequies dulcis, calidus est ignis in aede-
haec cuculus nescit, sed perfidus ille laborat.

Ven

One ferat fiones cuculus, et mella ministra,
aedificatque domus, placidas et nauigat undas,
et generat soboles, laetos et uestget agros.

hiems

Haec inimica mihi sunt, quae tibi laeta uidentur
sed placet optatas saepe numeraeque per arces
ut gaudere tibi simul et nequiescere semper.

Ven

Quis tibi, tardus hiems, semper dormine parata,
diuitias cumulas, saepe uel congreget ullas,
si uen uel aestas ante tibi nulla laborant?

hiems

Venae referis: ille, quoniam mihi multa laborant,
sunt equam sibi nostra diuina subacta.
iam mihi sibi uidentes domino, quaecumque laborant.

Ven

Non ille dominus, sed pauper inopsque superbus.
Nec te iam poteris per te tu pascere tantum
non tibi qui ubi est cuculus alimonia praestat.

Phaemon

Tunc respondit ouans sublyme e sede Phaemon
et Claphis paxiter, pastorum et turba piorum:
'Quesine plura, hiems: nrium tu pchizus, atrox.
et ueniat cuculus, pastorum dulcis amicus,
collybus in nostris humperant germina laeta,
pascua sint pecori, nequies et dulcis in aquis.
et uirides nam pnestent umbracula fessis,
uberibus plenis ubriantque ad mulctra capellae,
et uolucres uaria Phoebum sub uoce saluent.
quapropter citus cuculus nunc ecce uenit!
tu iam dulcis amor, cunctis gratissimus hospes.
omnia te expectant, pelagus tellusque polusque.
salue, dulce decus, cuculus per saecula saluel'

CISSANTHEMOS is a script font based on the hand of the early ninth-century scribe of the Royal Bible, British Library MS Royal 1 E VI. This magnificent but fragmentary manuscript was probably written at the abbey of St Augustine's, Canterbury. At the dissolution of the monasteries during the reign of Henry VIII it came into the hands of John Lumley, first (and only) Baron Lumley, a book collector. After Lumley died childless in 1609, the book passed to the royal family. King George II donated it to the British Museum in 1757.

The script employed by this scribe is "insular hybrid minuscule," a formal hand used for important ecclesiastical books. The volume also employs a variety of capitals for several purposes—to begin sentences, for titles, and for what are now called "drop caps." Accordingly, Cissanthemos has three distinct styles of capitals for most letters of the alphabet, selectable by OpenType features.

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