

O Fortuna

Carl Orff

Section: Imperatrix Mundi (Empress of the World)O Fortuna (O Fortune)

velut luna (like the moon)

statu variabilis (you are changeable)

semper crescis (always waxing)

aut decrescis; (and waning;)

vita detestabilis (hateful life)

nunc obdurat (first oppresses)

et tunc curat (and then soothes)

ludo mentis aciem, (as fancy takes it)

egestatem, (poverty)

potestatem (and power)

dissolvit ut glaciem. (it melts them like ice.)Sors immanis (Fate - monstrous)

et inanis, (and empty)

rota tu volubilis, (you whirling wheel)

status malus, (you are malevolent)

vana salus (well-being is vain)

semper dissolubilis, (and always fades to nothing)

obumbrata (shadowed)

et velata (and veiled)

mihi quoque niteris; (you plague me too;)

nunc per ludum (now through the game)

dorsum nudum (I bring my bare back)

fero tui sceleris. (to your villainy.)Sors salutis (Fate is against me)

et virtutis (in health)

michi nunc contraria, (and virtue)

est affectus (driven on)

et defectus (and weighted down)

semper in angaria. (always enslaved.)

Hac in hora (So at this hour)

sine mora (without delay)

corde pulsum tangite; (pluck the vibrating strings;)

quod per sortem (since Fate)

sternit fortem, (strikes down the strong)

mecum omnes plangite! (everyone weep with me!)

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