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| Virga Jesse floruit,  In qua flos apparuit  Altissimi Filius.  Quod lingua prophetica scripsit,  Complevit clementia  Quando vox angelica dixit:  Ave plena gratia.  Jam patet in virgine  Sine viri semine  conceptus,  Surgite qui colitis  Deum, quia cernitis  et natum videbitis  Regem angelorum. | A shoot sprang from the stock of Jesse,  A blossom appeared on it,  The Son of the most high.  What the prophet had preached  Was realized by (God the) merciful  When the angel’s voice said:  Hail (Mary), full of grace  Instantly the child is present in the virgin,  Without a man’s aid  Conceived,  Arise, you who adore God,  For you see born a child,  And at the same time,  The King of the angels. |

The Sonoma Bach Choir performed Senfl’s re-imagination of Josquin’s famous *Ave Maria* last December; this put me on to Senfl, a composer I had not really explored. And lo, he’s wonderful!—most especially in this piece. It speaks its own language: Tightly imitative, but with an astounding control of range, and with a willingness to reside at times in a magical texture which goes nowhere, simply IS. For example, notice the very end, where he builds sopranos up to their top F, and then subsides down to the most delicate echoing extension of the word ‘angelorum.’

Hi all,

Yes, once again I can't resist (even during my so-called staycation) sending out a piece for your delectation.

This one is by the redoubtable Ludwig Senfl. (We had his 'De profundis' several weeks ago.)

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