

O Virtus Sapientiae  
for SATB choir, unaccompanied

6 minutes

Brooke Joyce (1998)

Premiered by the Coro Juventudes de Segorbe, 1999

Winner, 'Juan Bautista Comes' International Choral Composition Competition, 1998

Program Note:

O virtus Sapientiae,  
quae circuiens circuisti  
comprehendendo omnia  
in una via, quae habet vitam,  
tres alas habens,  
quarum una in altum volat,  
et altera de terra sudat,  
et tertia undique volat.  
Laus tibi sit, sicut te decet,  
O Sapientia.

O strength of Wisdom  
who, circling, circled,  
enclosing all  
in one life-giving path,  
three wings you have:  
one soars to the heights,  
one distills its essence upon the earth,  
and the third is everywhere.  
Praise to you, as is fitting,  
O Wisdom.

-- Hildegard of Bingen, 1098-1179