

Editor's Notes for *Ne recorderis*

This work by Hilarión Eslava, composition date unknown, is described as a “Responso a 4 y 8”, a Responsory (a prayer in the form of alternating verse and response) scored for 4 and 8 voices. *Ne recorderis peccata mea* is an ancient text drawn from the Latin Office for the Dead at Matins, Second Nocturne. Eslava concludes his responsory with a *Kyrie*.

The full setting here is for a double SATB choir with cello, contrabass and organ accompaniment, lending it a sense of solemnity and gravity. The original, a manuscript in the hand of someone other than the composer, came to us from the archives of the Real Colegio Seminario de Corpus Christi in Valencia, Spain.

One final note, this piece is nearly identical to “Libera Me Domine”, the final movement of Eslava’s “Oficio de Difuntos” (see <https://musescore.com/user/29381772/scores/6256689> or [https://hilarioneslava.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Oficio de Difuntos-Part-2.pdf](https://hilarioneslava.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Oficio_de_Difuntos-Part-2.pdf)). The lyrics are different (most of the time), but otherwise there is little discernible difference. I could not say which version was written first.

Latin text

Versus (V.) *Ne recorderis peccata mea, Domine,*

Responsum (R.) *Dum veneris iudicare sæculum per ignem.*

V. *Dirige, Domine Deus meus, in conspectu tuo viam meam.*

R. *Dum veneris iudicare sæculum per ignem.*

V. *Requiem æternam dona eis Domine: et lux perpetua luceat eis.*

R. *Dum veneris iudicare sæculum per ignem.*

English translation

V. Remember not, O Lord my sins.

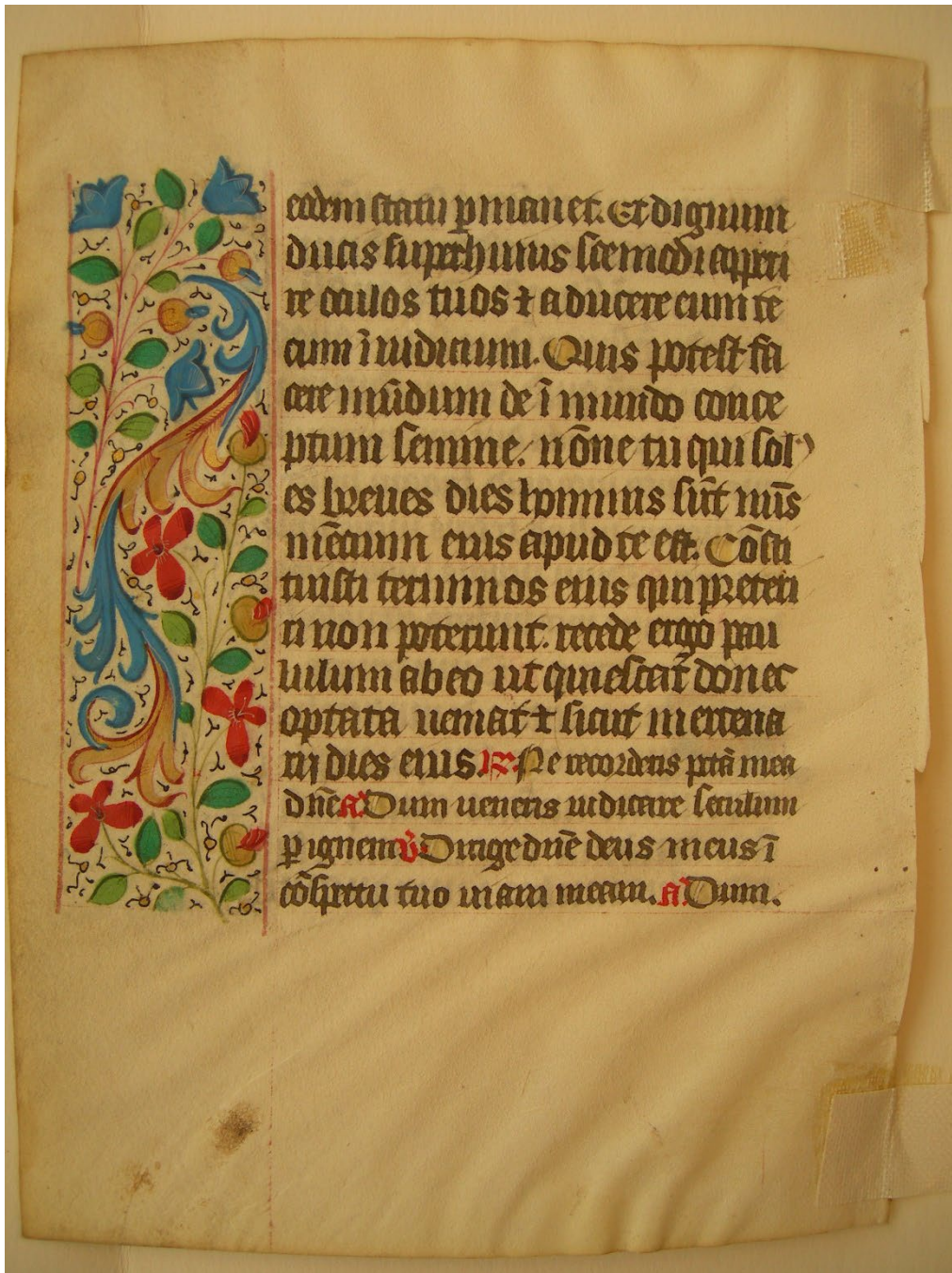
R. Whilst thou shalt come to judge the world by fire.

V. Direct, O Lord, my God my way in thy sight.

R. Whilst thou shalt come to judge the world by fire.

V. Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord: and let perpetual light shine unto them.

R. Whilst thou shalt come to judge the world by fire



Page taken from a *Book of Hours* made in northern France in the late fifteenth century. *Ne Recorderis* is partially quoted at the bottom of the page. From the Office for the Dead at Matins, Second Nocturne, including a text from Job 14. Cleveland Institute of Art, at http://ege.denison.edu/cia/leaf_46.php