

Archivissima 2024 #passioni

Mother Dominica du Sacré-Cœur Jacquart (Luc Darmès) Composer – A lifelong passion.

The video traces the musical activity of Mother **Dominica du Sacré-Coeur, osu (Berthe Jacquart)** through the many music sheets for voice and instrument that have come down to us. The daughter of merchants from Brittany, Berthe studied with the **Ursulines of Vitré** and then became one of them, taking the name Dominica du Sacré-Coeur. Dedicated to music since childhood, inspired by Saint Agnes, 'the great musician from Paradise', as she liked to call her, she embraced her vocation by expressing it through her **passion for music** that nourished her spirit and produced numerous compositions of **holy music**. Having moved to the Netherlands following the French expulsion laws, Dominica continued her apostolate in schools as a music teacher, alongside her activity as a composer under the **pseudonym Luc Darmès**, a name we often find on her music sheets, both manuscript and published. In addition to holy music, her production also includes **exercises** designed for both students and teachers. So great was her devotion to music that she was willing to contribute, in her own small way, with a donation to purchase the organ for the chapel of the new Generalate in Rome in 1932. She died the following year in Redon, France, aged just 52.

Text video

Berthe Jacquart (La Guerche de Bretagne 1881 – Redon 1933)

- Daughter of merchants from Brittany
- Studied at the Ursulines of Vitré
- She took the habit in 1902 and her first vows in 1904
- Following the expulsion laws she was received by the Ursulines of Maastricht where she made her perpetual profession in 1906
- She returned to France in 1919 and applied for membership of the Roman Union. The same year she was received by the Ursulines of St Omer in Tournai
- Music teacher (organ and piano)

'Very intelligent, excellent musician, talented composer. Very impressionable, very passionate nature, excellent heart' (AGUUR, Ic, *Dossier des décès, ad nomen, passim*).

LIST OF WORKS MENTIONED (AGUUR, Nf 2, *Ursulines Musiciennes*)

Eucharistic compositions

- «A Jésus par Marie». Text by the R.F. Joret, O.P. – Music by L. Darmès. Singing for two voices with organ or harmonium accompaniment.
- «Bonheur du cloître».
- «La Maison du Seigneur».

- «Panis Angelicus – L. Darmès». Singing for two voices with organ or harmonium accompaniment.
- «Reste avec moi, Seigneur». Text by M. Marie François Xavier Marteau, osu – Music by M. Dominica du Sacré-Coeur Jacquart, osu, 1920.
- «Tantum ergo».
- «Pie Jesu».
- «Jesu corona virginum».

Latin motets

Luc Darmès, *Six Latin Motets for unison or two equal voices with organ or harmonium accompaniment*, Procure Générales des Missionnaires et du Clergé, Lille, 1922.

- «Adoro te devote».
- «Jesu dulcis memoria».
- «Quid retribuam Domino».
- «Misericordias Domini».
- «Ave verum».
- «O quam pulchra est».

Marian compositions

- «Heure d'Angelus». Text by I. Dupin – Music by M. Dominica du Sacré-Coeur Jacquart, osu, 1926.
- «L'Immaculée Conception». Text by R.F. Haurion, S.J. – Music by C. Lust and L. Darmès.
- «Pour une fête de Notre-Dame». Text by R.M. Marie de St Jean Martin, osu – Music by M. Dominica du Sacré-Coeur Jacquart, osu.
- «Vierge pure». Text by R.M. Marie de St Jean Martin, osu – Music by M. Dominica du Sacré-Coeur Jacquart, osu. For mezzo-soprano with harmonium accompaniment.
- «Je te salue Ô Notre-Dame».
- «Mater dolorosa».
- «Salve Regina». Text by M. Marie François Xavier Marteau, osu – Music by M. Dominica du Sacré-Coeur Jacquart, osu, 1920.

French Chants

- «Cantique pour la Communion». Text by the Blessed L.M. Grignon de Monfort – Music by L. Darmès.
- «Première Communion».
- «Prière pour l'union». Singing solo or unison choir.
- «Le Cantique de la Charité».
- «Enfant Jésus, Ô cher petit Roi».
- «Invocations au Sacré-Coeur».
- «Invocation à Sainte Angèle Merici». Text by M. Marie François Xavier Marteau, osu – Music by M. Dominica du Sacré-Coeur Jacquart, osu, 1920.

Dominica du Sacré-Coeur offers as a gift to the Prioress General her work in honour of Saint Angela Merici, foundress of the Ursulines (AGUUR, Ja 88, *Correspondance*, letter no. 2515, 1920 Nov 24).

Piano Exercises

- L. Darmès, *60 exercices variés pour le piano*, Édition Fernand Lauweryns – Bruxelles, 1920.
- L. Darmès, *Le petit livre des tenues. Exercices gradués, très simples et attrayants pour acquérir l'indépendance des doigts*, Paris, Alphonse Leduc, Éditions Musicales, 1924.

Operetta

«Le Mystère de Notre-Dame». Scenes from the Life of the Holy Virgin in eight panels with prologue and apotheosis. For even-voice choir, piano, harmonium and violin, 1926.

- Scene I «Présentation».
- Scene II «Annonciation».
- Scene III «Bethléem».
- Scene IV «Nazareth».
- Scene V «Mater dolorosa».
- Scene VI «Marie au Cénacle avant la Pentecôte».
- Scene VII «Mort de Notre-Dame».
- Scene VIII «Marie Notre Mère».
- «Déclamation».

In 1928, Mother Dominica went to Amiens to organise the staging of her opera first performed in Tournai (Holland) in 1926 (AGUUR, Ja 213, *Correspondance*, letter no. 1203, 1928 Mar 27). The Archives of the Ursulines of the Roman Union of the Province FBS - Beaugency, preserves some pictures related to the staging of this operetta (Scenes 2-4, 7).