O Virtus Sapientiae

(motet based on an antiphon by Hildegard von Bingen)

O virtus Sapientiae,
quae circuiens circuisti
comprehendendo omnia
in una via, quae habet vitam,
tres alas h-bens,
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 lifegiving path,
three wings you have:
one soars to the heights,
one distils its essence upon the earth,
and the third is everywhere.
Praise to you, as is fitting,
O Wisdom.

Translation by Kate Quartano Brown

(**✱** indicates which voice is carrying the plainchant, should be a bit more prominent)

(⌐ ⌐ indicates original plainchant ligatures, open-ended means ligature is split between voices)

Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)   **Cheryl Lynn Helm (b. 1957)**

Lyrics under the staves:

System 1 (measure 16):
- S: cu - i - ens cir - cu - i - sti com - pre - hen - den -
- A: cu - i - ens cir - cu - i - sti com - pre - hen - den -
- T: cu - i - ens cir - cu - i - sti com - pre - hen - den -
- B: cu - i - ens cir - cu - i - sti com - pre - hen - den -

System 2 (measure 25):
- S: do o - mni - a in un - a
- A: do o - mni - a in un - a
- T: do o - mni - a in un - a
- B: do o - mni - a in un - a

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Lyrics under staves (measures 73–80):

S: lat. Laus ti - bi sit, si - cut te de - cet, O

A: lat. Laus ti - bi sit, si - cut te de - cet, O

T: lat. Laus ti - bi sit, si - cut te de - cet, O

B: lat. Laus ti - bi sit, si - cut te de - cet, O

Lyrics under staves (measures 81–):

S: Sa - pi - en - ti - a.

A: Sa - pi - en - ti - a.

T: Sa - pi - en - ti - a.

B: Sa - pi - en - ti - a.