



Sacred Choral

KYRIE

FROM MESSE POUR TROIS VOIX DE FEMMES ET ORGUE

(**BIOGRAPHY**) Gabriel Cusson (1903-1972), blind since childhood, studied composition with [Nadia Boulanger](#) in Paris (1924-1930) during which time he wrote his Messe (1924) for the nuns of one of the convents there. It is known that the work received at least a reading at the convent. (**BACKGROUND**) Only recently known for his choral writing (see [CMH 17](#)), Cusson exhibits a fine skill with voices although his work requires great skill in vocal dexterity. (**PUBLICATIONS**) *CMH* "[Mass](#) Excerpts / Extraits de messes" (**MUSIC**) [Chromatic](#) and seemingly in perpetual motion, the voices interweave, creating striking tonal juxtapositions which is all the more remarkable considering Cusson's blindness. (**FURTHER READING**) [EMC 2](#), 336.



Nadia Boulanger at the console of the organ
in her Paris apartment, ca.1920
private collection of Roger Violet.

