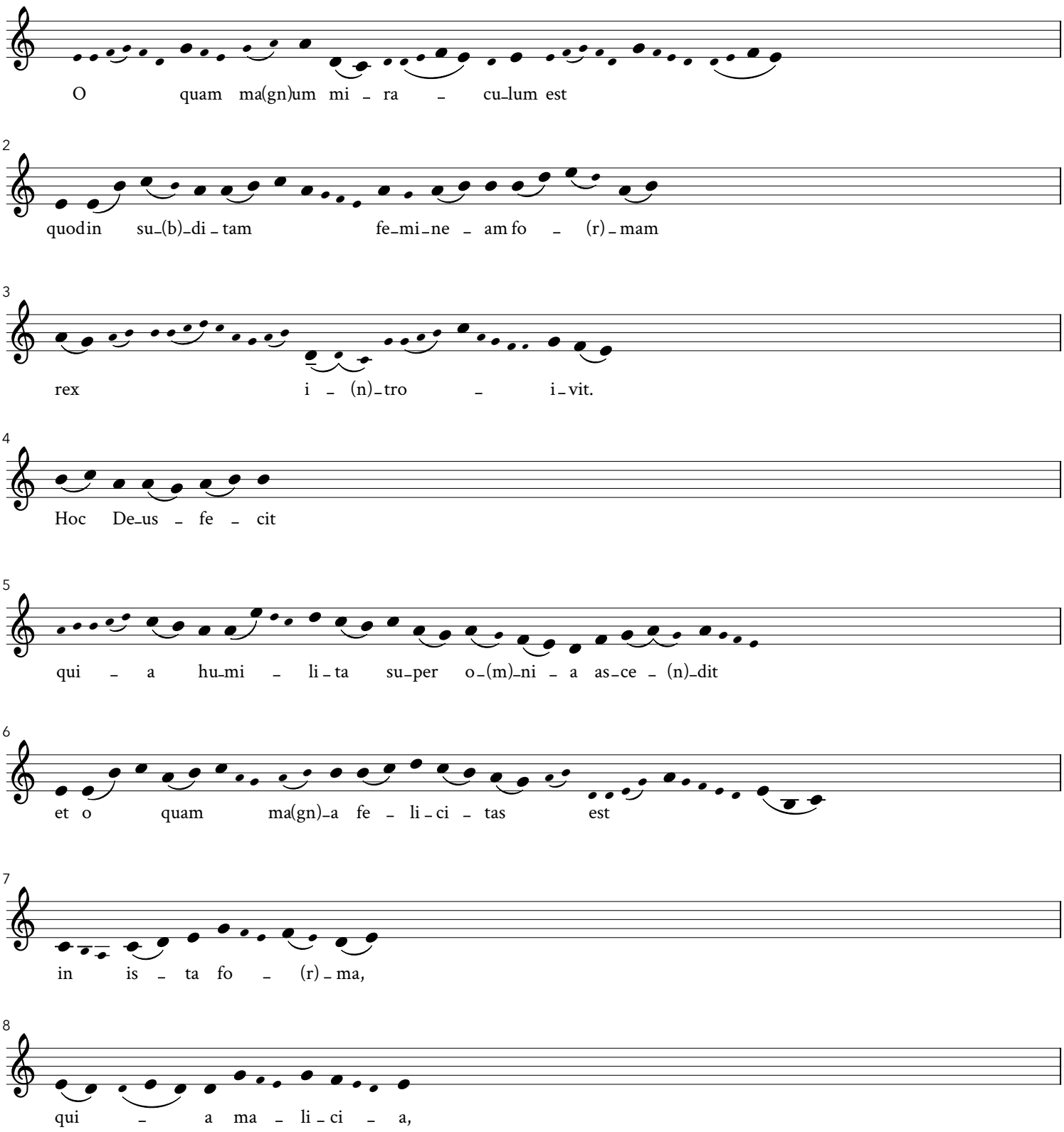
O quam magnum miraculum

Antiphon for the Virgin

Transcribed by Allison Mondel

Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)

R f. 467r-467v



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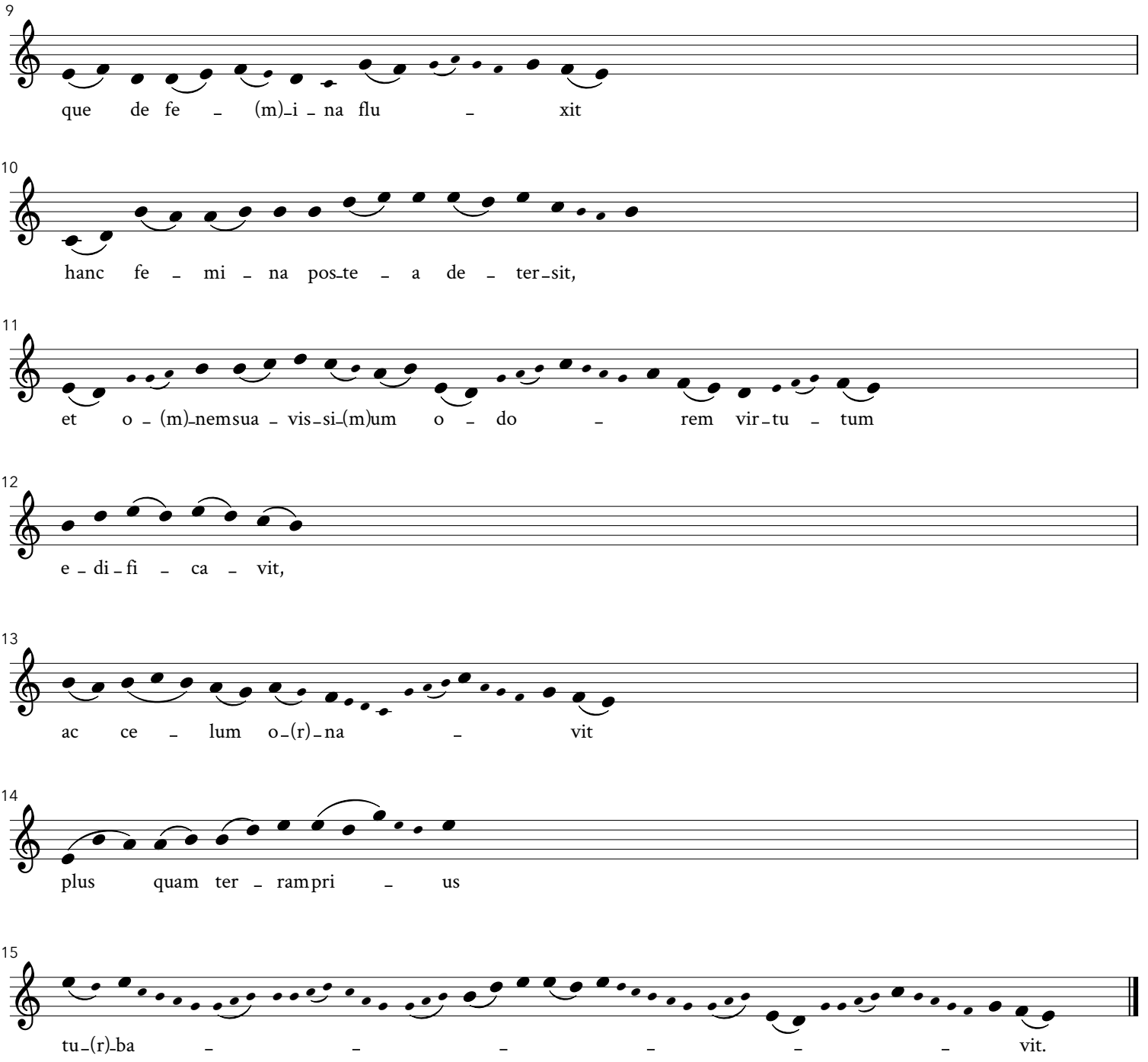

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O quam magnum miraculum est	Oh what a great miracle
quod in subditam femineam formam	that the king entered into the humble body
rex introivit.	of a woman.
Hoc Deus fecit	God did this
quia humilitas super omnia ascendit.	because lowliness rises above everything.
Et o quam magna felicitas est	And O! what an incredible blessing
in ista forma,	there is in that body
quia malicia,	since the ills
que de femina fluxit—	that flowed from a woman [Eve],
hanc femina postea detersit,	a woman [Mary] later wiped clean
et omnem suavissimum odorem virtutum	and raised up the sweetest scent
edificavit,	of all the virtues
ac celum ornavit	and adorned heaven,
plus quam terram prius turbavit.	even more than she [Eve] had cast the Earth into disorder.

Latin translation by Hugh McElroy
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