

The Great Choral Treasure Hunt II

Randy Swiggum & Rebecca R. Winnie

1:00-2:15 PM • Friday, October 29, 2004

Wisconsin Music Educators Association

2004 Wisconsin State Music Conference: Music Education: Priceless

Comprehensive Musicianship Through Performance (CMP)

Celebrating more than 25 Years of Service to Music Educators & Students

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Finding truly excellent music that is accessible to middle level and young high school singers is a time-intensive, never-ending quest. Here are ways to find the best quality music, analyze it for great teaching ideas, and best of all – help kids fall in love with it, using the CMP model as a guide

Music packets courtesy of J.W. Pepper Music

CHANT

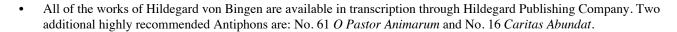
1) Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179): Sed Diabolus (No. 53) Hildegard Publishing Company Unison

[Available separately as a single antiphon or in a collection of Three Antiphons]

Recording: *Hildegard of Bingen: The Lauds of Saint Ursula*. Musicians of the Early Music Institute, Thomas Binkley. 1991. Early Music Institute, Indiana University School of Music, Focus 911.

Other Recommended works:

Hildegard von Bingen: O frondens virga
(O Branch, Coming into Leaf) Ed. William T. Flynn
Treble Clef Music Press TC-144
Unison
(This edition includes the Magnificat in plainchant with the antiphon in unison & with an added organal voice)



- At the UW Mills Music Library one can find a book of facsimile editions of the works of Hildegard. Hildegard of Bingen: Symphonia Harmoniea Caelestium Revelationum. Dendermonde St.-Pieters & Paulusabdij MS. COD. 9. Introduction by Peter Van Poucke. Alamire. Peer, Belgium. 1991.
- At the UW-Milwaukee Music Library one can find a book of the works of Hildegard in printed neumatic notation. *Hildegard von Bingen: Lieder*. Otto Müller Verlag, Salzburg, 1969.

Other recommended Hildegard recordings:

Hildegard von Bingen: 11,000 Virgins; Chants for the Feast of St. Ursula. Anonymous4. 1996. Harmonia mundi HMU 907200. Hildegard of Bingen: A feather on the breath of God. Gothic Voices with Emma Kirkby. Directed by Christopher Page. 1981. Hyperion CDA66039.

Hildegard von Bingen: Heavenly Revelations - Hymns, Sequences, Antiphons, Responds. Oxford Camerata, Jeremy Summerly, Director. 1993. Naxos 8.550998.

Hildegard von Bingen: "O Vis Aeternitatis" Vesper in der Abtei St. Hildegard. Schola der Benediktinerinnenabtei St. Hildegard, Eibingen. Leitung: Johannes Berchmans Göschl, Sr. Christiane Rath OSB. 1997. ARS MUSICI, AM1203-2.

Hildegard von Bingen: Saints. Sequentia. Deutsche Harmonia Mundi [BMG]. 1998. DHM 05472 77378 2.

Hildegard von Bingen und ihre Zeit. Ensemble für frühe musik Augsburg. Christophorus CHR 74584.

Hildegard von Bingen: Voices of Angels. Voices of Ascension, Dennis Keene, Conductor. 1997. DELOS DE 3219.

- *Liber Usualis: With Introduction and Rubrics in English.* Edited by the Benedictines of Solesmes. St. Bonaventure Publications, Suite 105, 324 Central Avenue, Great Falls, Montana, 59401. Originally published by Desclée & Co. Publishers, Tournai (Belgium), 1953. Republished with additional material by St. Bonaventure Publications, 1997.
- Gems of Gregorian Chant. John Rutter, Editor. Collegium Music Publications, CCS208.



EARLY MUSIC

On Yoolis Night: Set I – Antiphon: Hodie Christus natus est & Carol: Alleluya: A nywe werk earthsongs Unison & 2-3 Parts

Recording: On Yoolis Night: medieval carols & motets. Anonymous 4. 1993. Harmonia Mundi HMU907099.

Other Recommended works:

On Yoolis Night: Set I -Carol: Ther is no rose of swych vertu Earthsongs

Unison & 2-3 parts

On Yoolis Night: Set I –Nowel: Owt of your slepe aryse Earthsongs

Unison & 2-3 parts

Beatriz de Dia (death date ca. 1212): A chantar m'er de so qu'ieu non volria

RRW Edition included in handout

Unison, with possible drones

Recordings:

Bella Domna: The Medieval Woman: Lover, Poet, Patroness, and Saint. Sinfonye, Stevie Wishart, director. 1987. HyperionCDA66283. The Romance of the Rose: Feminine Voices From Medieval France. Heliotrope. Koch 3-7103-2 H1.

Montsegur: La Tragedie Cathare. La Nef. Dorian DOR-90243.

Troubadours, Trouvères, Minstrels. Studio der Frühen Musik. Thomas Binkley. Teldec 4509-97938-2.

A Mediaeval Banquet: Music from the Age of Chivalry. Martin Best Mediaeval Consort. Nimbus Records. NI 1753.

Anonymous 13th Century: Miri it is

R. Swiggum Edition included in handout

Unison, with possible drones

Recording: Miri it is: Songs & Instrumental Music from Medieval England. The Dufay Collective with John Potter. 1995. Chandos Records CHAN 9396.

Anonymous c. 1250: Sumer is icumen in (The Reading Rota)

R. Swiggum Edition included in handout

Unison & Canon, with Pes

Recording: Sumer is icumen in: chants médiévaux anglais. The Hilliard Ensemble. 1985. Harmonia Mundi HMC 901154.

RENAISSANCE HOMOPHONY/POLYPHONY FOR THE EMERGING CHOIR (AGAIN)

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (ca.1525-1594): Regina Coeli Ed. Catherine Dower, Tetra Music Corp. A.B. 721 SATB, a cappella

Thomas Morley (ca. 1557-1602): Lirum Lirum 4) **Galaxy Music Corporation 1.2403** SSATB, a cappella

Egína caéli * laetáre, alle-lú-ia: Oui- a quem meru- ísti portáre, alle-lú-ia: Resurréxit, sic-ut dixit, allelú-ia: Ora pro nó-bis Dé-um, alle-lú- ia.

Original Title: You that wont to my pipes sound

Original Text: You that wont to my pipes sound, Daintily to tread your ground, Jolly Shepherds and Nymphs sweet. Lirum.. Here met together under the weather, Hand in hand uniting, The lovely God come greet. Lirum...

> Lo triumphing brave comes he, All in pomp and Majesty, Monarch of the world and king. Lirum.. Let who so list him, dare to resist him, We our voice uniting, Of his high acts will sing. Lirum...

Other Recommended works:

John Bennet (fl. 1599-1614): Weep O Mine Eyes Ed. Edmund Fellowes, ECS Publishing 1.5004

SATB, a cappella

John Dowland (1563-1626): Fine Knacks For Ladies

Ed. David Randolph, Lawson-Gould/G. Schirmer 51247

SATB, a cappella

Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612): Basciami, Vita Mia

R. Swiggum Edition included in handout

SATB, a cappella

Salamon Rossi (c.1570-c.1630): Elohim Hashivenu Theodore Presser 312-41119

SATB, a cappella

Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656): O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem (from "Musica Deo sacra," 1668) Theodore Presser Company 312-41111 SATB, a cappella

 Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594): Hosanna in Excelsis Ed. Audrey Snyder, CPP/Belwin SV8613

SAB, a cappella

• Thomas Morley: *Spring-time*

Ed./Arr. Audrey Snyder, Hal Leonard 085551466 3-Part Mixed a cappella (with a very few octave changes, this arrangement for changing voices can also become the original SAB)

 Spanish Song: Vesáme Y Abraçáme SPR Studio SV8704 Anonymous villánçico, ed. Harold Owen Three-Part Mixed, a cappella (optional tambourine)

- Invitation to Madrigals: Book 1 SAB. Ed. Thurston Dart. Galaxy Music Corporation.
- John Hilton (1599-1657): If It Be Love National Music Publishers CMS-125

SSA, a cappella

• Invitation to Madrigals: Book 3 SSA. Ed. Thurston Dart. Galaxy Music Corporation.

Other Great Collections:

The Chester Books of Madrigals. Edited by Anthony G. Petti. Chester Music, J & W Chester/Edition Wilhelm Hansen London Ltd. Eagle Court, Lond EC1M 5Qd. Eight Volumes copyrighted 1982-1986. "The Chester Books of Madrigals offer an exciting collection of secular European madrigals, partsongs and rounds from the 16th and early 17th centuries, newly edited from early sources by Anthony G. Petti, who contributes copious historical notes to each volume. The majority of the settings are for SATB [though each volume includes selections of fewer and more parts], and simplified keyboard reductions with suggested tempi and dynamics are provided as a rehearsal aid or as a basis for a continuo part where appropriate. Texts are in the original languages, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, with modernized spelling and punctuation. In the case of the non-English texts, translations are provided at the head of each piece. An important feature of this anthology is the arrangements by subjects, which, it is hoped, should be of great assistance in program planning. Indispensable popular works are interspersed with relatively unfamiliar but attractive and singable pieces." I The Animal Kingdom 2 Love and Marriage 3 Desirable Women 4 The Seasons 5 Singing and Dancing 6 Smoking and Drinking 7 Warfare 8 Place Names

The Chester Books of Motets. Edited by Anthony G. Petti. Chester Music, J & W Chester/Edition Wilhelm Hansen London Ltd. Eagle Court, Lond EC1M 5Qd. Sixteen Volumes copyrighted 1977-1982. "The first sixteen volumes of this expanding series are devoted to a wide range of sacred Renaissance motets with Latin texts, and contain a mixture of well known and unfamiliar pieces, some of which are published here for the first time. All appear in completely new editions by Anthony G. Petti." 1. The Italian School for 4 voices 2. The English School for 4 voices 3. The Spanish School for 4 voices 4. The German School for 4 voices 5. The Flemish School for 4 voices 6. Christmas and Advent Motets for 4 voices 7. Motets for 3 voices 8. The French School for 4 voices 9. The English School for 5 voices 10. The Italian and Spanish Schools for 5 voices 11. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 15. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 16. Christmas and Advent Motets for 6 voices 16. Christmas and Advent Motets for 6 voices 17. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 18. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. Christmas and Advent Motets for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. Christmas and Advent Motets for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. Christmas and Advent Motets for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish and German Schools for 6 voices 19. The Flemish

The Oxford Book of English Madrigals. Edited by Philip Ledger. Oxford University Press, Oxford and New York, 1978, reprinted 1987. 60 English Madrigals by 17 composers.

The Oxford Book of Italian Madrigals. Edited by Alec Harman. Oxford University Press, Oxford and New York, 1983. 55 madrigals by 22 composers; includes English translations.

The Oxford Book of Tudor Anthems. 34 anthems for mixed voices compiled by Christopher Morris. Oxford University Press, Oxford and New York, 1978.

Madrigals and Partsongs. Edited by Clifford Bartlett, Series Editor, John Rutter. Oxford University Press, Oxford and New York, 2001. 59 madrigals and partsongs.

Renaissance Voices: Introduction to the Italian Madrigal for four voices; Newly revised and edited from the former Penguin Book of Madrigals for Mixed Voices. Edited by Jerome Roche. Galaxy Music Corporation, New York, 1989.

Renaissance Voices: The Flower of the Italian Madrigal for Mixed Voices. Edited by Jerome Roche in three volumes: Volume I: Animuccia-Marenzio; Volume II: Monte-Willaert; Volume III: Light Madrigals and Villanellas. Galaxy Music Corporation, New York, 1988, 1988, 1995.

The King's Singers' Madrigals. Edited by Clifford Bartlett in two volumes: Volume I: European Madrigals in 4 parts; Volume II: European Madrigals in 5 parts. Includes performance notes and translations. Faber Music Ltd., London, 1984; Distributed by Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation.

Later Homophony/Polyphony:

W.A. Mozart: Jubilate Deo (the final movement of Benedictus sit Deus K.V. 117)
 Ed. Rod Walker, Hal Leonard 08681050
 SATB with piano or organ

George Philipp Telemann (1681-1767): Hallelujah
 Ed. Walter Ehret, Harold Flammer A-5602
 SATB with piano or organ
 (This is the final *Alleluia* section of *Laudate Jehovam*, *Omnes Gentes* (Psalm 117) which is available in full from Concordia Publishing House 97-4838. This later edition includes the two violin obligato parts).

Antonio Vivaldi: Domine Fili Unigenite (from Gloria)
 Ed. Elmer Thomas, Roger Dean Publishing HRD184

SATB with piano or organ

 Francesca Caccini (1587-c.1630): Aure Volanti Ed. Carolyn Raney, Broude Brothers Limited (Ferdinando Saracinelli) SSA, continuo and 3 flutes

DUETS FOR CHOIR

5) Fanny Hensel (Mendelssohn) (1805-1847): Three Duets on Texts by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (März, April, Mai)

ARTS VENTURE, 1815 Carr Avenue

Two Voices with piano

Fairbanks, AK 99709-4208, sing@mosquitonet.com [performance copies are available. "März" is a special printing]

Recording: Fanny Hensel-Mendelssohn: Chorlieder, Duette, Terzette. Kammerchor der Universität Dortmund, Leitung: Willi Gundlach. 1995. Thorofon CTH2299

Other Recommended works:

(19th Century)

• Fanny Hensel (Mendelssohn): Two Duets on Texts by Heinrich Heine (Die Mitternacht war kalt und stumm & Ich stand gelehnet an den Mast)
Arts Venture (see above)

Two Voices, a cappella

Fanny Hensel (Mendelssohn): Three Duets on Texts by Heinrich Heine (Wenn ich in deine Augen sehe; Ausmeinen Tränen spriessen; Im wunderschönen Monat Mai)

Arts Venture (see above)

Two Voices with Piano

Felix Mendelssohn: [Three Folksongs for Women's Choir]
 Wie kann ich froh und lustig sein? (So Far Away) (JG-527)

Abendlied (Evening Song) (JG-528) Wasserfahrt (Across the Sea) (JG-529)

Ed. Raymond Sprague, Gentry Publications SA with piano

Robert Schumann (1810-1856): *Herbstlied (Autumn Song)* (S.A. Mahlman) Ed. John B. Haberlen, Mark Foster MF858 SA with piano

• Robert Schumann: Four Folksongs for Women's Choir (from Op. 103) (Mailied; Frühlingslied; An die Nachtigall; An den Abendstern)
Ed. Raymond Sprague, Gentry Publications JG2151 SA with piano

• Robert Schumann: *Eight Partsongs for Upper Voices* (from Op. 29, 74, 114) (*Ländliches Lied; Lied; Erste Begegnung, Liebesgram, Botschaft* & three 3-part pieces)

Ed. Judith Blezzard, Faber/Hal Leonard 08718020 SA with piano (and SSA with piano)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897): Die Meere (The Seas)

National Music Publishers WHC-57 Two Voices and piano

• Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924): Sanctus (from Messe Basse)

Ed. Nancy Telfer, Neil A. Kjos 6228 SA with organ (or piano)

• Gabriel Fauré: Ave Verum (Op. 65, No. 1)

Ed. E. Harold Geer, E.C. Schirmer SA with organ (or piano)

• Faustina Hasse Hodges (1822-1895): L'Amicizia (Friendship)

Treble Clef Music Press TC-199 SA with piano

(Baroque)

• Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750): duets are often available in several editions and as part of the larger work. Here are a few of the recommended Bach duets with the original voicing:

Der Herr segne euch (The Lord Bless You)	Cantata BWV 196
Ed. Bunjes, Concordia Publishing House 98-1474	TB and continuo
Den Tod, Niemand Zwingen Kunnt (O Death, None Could Conquer Thee)	Cantata BWV 4
Ed. Kjelson, Belwin Mills 2131	SA and continuo
Duet from Cantata No. 9 (Herr, du siehst)	Cantata BWV 9
Ed. Rao, Boosey & Hawkes 6362	SA and continuo
Ich jauchze, ich lache (With Loudest Rejoicing)	Cantata BWV 15
Ed. Herrmann, Concordia Publishing House 98-1846	SA and Continuo

Wir eilen mit schwachen, doch emsigen Schritten

Ed. Talmadge, E.C. Schirmer 2506

Wenn des Kreuzes Bitterkeiten

Ed. Bartle, Hinshaw Music

Duet and Chorale from Cantata No. 93

Ed. Rao, Boosey & Hawkes OCTB6592

Domine Deus

Ed.Rao, Boosey & Hawkes OCTB6552

Cantata BWV 78

SA and continuo (ABA form – long)

Cantata BWV 99

SA, continuo, violin, and oboe

Cantata BWV 93

SA, continuo, unison strings Mass in G Major, BWV 236

SA, continuo, violin(s)

Giovanni Carlo Maria Clari (1677-1754): Che Bella Cosa

Ed. Marie Stultz, Morning Star Publishers

Two Voices and continuo

G.F. Handel (1685-1759): O Lovely Peace (from "Judas Maccabeus")

Editied by Kesselman, Boosey & Hawkes M-051-46868-3

SA with Piano

G.F. Handel: Quando non ho più core

48 Duets of the XVII-XIX Centuries, Compiled and Arranged For Medium Voices by Victor Prahl E.C. Schirmer Two Voices with Piano

G.F. Handel: No, di voi non vo' fidarmi

Greystone Press GRP-2000

(Ortensio Mauro)

SA with Piano (difficult melismas)

(This edition is edited and slightly arranged by B.R. Henson. The original was for two sopranos, thus the editor has taken some of the parts down an octavo for the "average" alto section.)

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643): Chiome d'oro (from Madrigals Book VII, 1619)

Ed. Owen Goldsmith, Roger Dean Publishing HRD 132-3

SA, continuo, 2 violins

SA with piano

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi (1710-1736): Stabat Mater (12 Movement work for Soprano & Alto, String Orchestra & Continuo)

Full Score available from Dover Publications

Piano Vocal Score: C.F. Peters Nr. 774

Two excerpts in octavo form:

Quando Corpus Morietur (Paradise). Thorpe/Theodore Presser Company No. 392-03004 Pergolesi Suite (Inflammatus et accensus & Quando corpus). Boosey & Hawkes OCTB6703

Henry Purcell (1659-1695): Sound the Trumpet (from the ode Come Ye Sons of Art)

Come Ye Sons of Art Ed. Tippett/Bergmann. Piano vocal score. Schott 10302 (original in D)

Elkan-Vogel/Theodore Presser 362-03202 (octavo Ed./Arr. Walter Ehret in Eb)

E.C. Schirmer 487 (octavo Ed. Clough-Leighter, Arr. Moffat in F)

(also in collection listed below)

Two Voices with Piano

Henry Purcell: Ten Duets (Book One)

Includes: We the spirits of the air; Two daughters of this aged stream are we; Shepherd, shepherd, leave decoying; My dearest, my fairest; Sound the trumpet, Lost is my quiet for ever.

Stainer & Bell/Galaxy Music R4129

Two Voices with Piano

Henry Purcell: Lost is my quiet forever

RRW Edition included in handout

Two Voices with Piano

Recording: Purcell Songs and Dialogues. Emma Kirkby, David Thomas, Anthony Rooley. 1982. Helios CDH55065.

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672): The entire collection of the duets in Kleine geistliche konzerte (Little Sacred Concertos is available in several different editions - including Dover and CPP Belwin DM00119. Below are three that have been published in octavo form.

Erhöre mich, wenn ich rufe (Hear Me, O Lord)

Ed. Don McAfee, Belwin-Mills Publishing DMC 8050

Two Medium Voices with Piano

Lobet den Herren, der zu Zion wohnet (Praise to the Lord God)

Ed. Don McAfee, Belwin-Mills Publishing

Two Medium Voices with Piano

Ihr Heiligen, lobsinget dem Herren (Praise Ye the Lord)

Ed. Don McAfee, Belwin-Mills Publishing

Two Medium Voices with Piano

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741): Esurientes (from Magnificat in G minor)

Ed. Raymond Sprague, Lawson-Gould 52790

SA with continuo

Antonio Vivaldi: Laudamus Te (from Gloria)

Walton Music W5014

SA with continuo

(Beethoven)

• Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) duets:

126 Irish, Welsh, and Scottish folksongs & airs were commissioned for arrangement by George Thomson. Thomson had new English texts set to these folk songs by such writers as Burns, Scott, and Boswell. Within this collection of arrangements are numerous duets originally intended for use in the home that were set for voice, piano, violin, and cello. Different publishers promote them for women's chorus or men's voices, and with or without the instrumental parts. Here are a few sources.

Two Folksongs (Constancy & Behold My Love How Green the Groves)

National Music Publishers CMS-136

TB, Violin, Cello & Piano

Three Irish Folk Songs (Sweet Power of Song, Oh! Thou Hapless Soldier; In Vain to this Desart my Fate I Deplore)
G. Schirmer 10919
Two-Part with Piano

48 Duets of the XVII-XIX Centuries, Compliled and Arranged For Medium Voices by Victor Prahl (Includes: Constancy, Sweet Power of Song, Where Flowers Were Springing)

E.C. Schirmer Two Voices with Piano

(20th Century and Traditional)

Adapted by Aaron Copland (1900-1990): Simple Gifts (Shaker Song)
 Transcribed by Irving Fine, Boosey & Hawkes 1903

Two Voices with piano

 Arr. Mary Goetze: Ca' the Yowes Boosey & Hawkes 6258 (Scottish Folk Song)

Two Voices (easy), piano, recorder

Vincent Persichetti (1915-1987): *dominic has a doll* (from Four Cummings Choruses, Op. 98) Elkan-Vogel/Theodore Presser 362-01222 Two Voices with piano

Vincent Persichetti: maggie and milly and molly and may (from Four Cummings Choruses, Op. 98)
 Elkan-Vogel/Theodore Presser 362-01224
 Two Voices with piano

(A Nice Collection)

• Anthems for Choirs 2: Twenty-four Anthems for sopranos & Altos (unison and two-part)
Ed. Philip Ledger. Oxford University Press

Specific recommendation: Maurice Greene (1606, 1755): The Lord is My Shephard (also available at

Specific recommendation: Maurice Greene (1696-1755): The Lord is My Shepherd (also available at: www.handlo.com)

MUSIC FOR YOUNG MEN TTB

6) Viva Tutti (ed. Ralph Hunter) Lawson-Gould 778

TTB, a cappella

TBB

Other Recommended works:

• William Cornysh (d. 1523): A Robyn

RSwiggum edition **included in handout**TTB a cappella

• Arr. Hatfield: Chickens in the Garden

(Traditional British Folk Song)

Boosey & Hawkes M-051-47529-2

(excellent, humorous arrangement; pitched low, easy)

• Arr. Jeffers: A-Rovin' (Sea Chantey)

earthsongs (mostly two part; pitched low)

TBB

Arr. Krunnfusz: Vive L'Amour
 (Traditional)

Alliance Publications AP-1154

(written for changing voices; pitched high) TTB

This is one of several excellent arrangements for changing voices, published by Alliance. www.apimusic.org

• Martin Donnelly, arr. Jeffers: the green man

earthsongs S-118 (folky, with piano, drum, optional cello, guitar) TTB

• Arr. Leavitt: Old Dan Tucker (Traditional)

Hal Leonard 8743494

(whip-crackin' arrangement, optional violin/string bass; part of "An American Quilt")

THOUGHTFUL WORLD MUSIC & FOLK SONG ARRANGEMENTS (REVISITED)

7) Arr. Yongrub: Dörven Dalai (The Four Seas) earthsongs

(Inner Mongolian Folk Song) SATB, a cappella

A Mongolian Pronunciation Guide and a CD with the spoken text is available from the publisher. Recording: *One World Many Voices*. earthsongs. 1998. CD 02.

8) Arr. Joseph Maselwa (as sung by Pete Seeger): Somagwaza World Music Press VTS #07

(Ceremonial Song from South Africa) Three Parts with percussion

Other Recommended works:

Arr. Stephen Chatman: *Skidegate Love Song*Gordon V. Thompson Music (Warner/Chappell) VE.I 1082

Arr. Craig Davis: Rosebud in June
 CPP Belwin SV8925 (opt. Hand drum, recorder)

 Nira Chen, Arr. Joshua Jacobson: Dodi Li HaZamir Publications/World Music Press

• Stephen Foster (1826-1864), Arr. Jack Halloran: *Nelly Bly* Gentry Publications JG2169

• Stephen Foster, Arr. Dennis Eliot: *Gentle Annie* Beckenhorst Press, BP113

Stephen Hatfield: *Tjak!* Boosey & Hawkes OCTB6905

 Arr. Stephen Hatfield: Run Children Run Boosey & Hawkes OCTB6972 Boosey & Hawkes OCTB7159

• Arr. Marcos Leite: *Tres Cantos Nativos Doe Indios Kraó* earthsongs

 Arr. Alice Parker: The Girl I Left Behind Me Lawson-Gould 51460

 Arr. Alice Parker: I Know the Lord G.I.A. Publications G-4229

Arr. Alice Parker: Hush!
 G.I.A. Publications G-4233

 Arr. Alice Parker: Sing, Sing Lawson-Gould/G. Schirmer 51345

R. Murray Schafer (b.1933): Gamelan
 Arcana Editions, Indian River, Ontario, K0L 2B0 Canada

Arr. Teodor Teodorescu: Fata de pastor
 Ed. Gabriel Dumitrescu, Musica Romanica XRCM-0008

 Arr. Andre Thomas: Keep Your Lamps! Hinshaw Music HMC-577

 Arr. Stephen Hatfield: Vus Vet Zayn Plymouth Music Company HL-231

• Arr. Alice Parker: *Come On Up* G.I.A. Publications G-4231

SAB, a cappella

(English Folk Song) Three-Part Mixed, a cappella

(Israeli "Folksong") SATB (optional piano, clarinet, flute, perc.)

(19th Century American) SATB, a cappella

(19th Century American) SATB with piano

(Inspired by a Balinese musical ceremony) Four Parts, a cappella

(Field Yell)

Two Two-Part Treble Choirs, a cappella

SATB, a cappella

(Native Brazilian melodies) SATB a cappella

STITE a cappena

(Traditional Irish) SATB, a cappella

(Traditional Spiritual) SATB, a cappella

(Traditional Spiritual) SATB, a cappella

(Traditional Irish with a Thomas Moore text) SATB with Irish harp or piano

(based on the gemelen music of Pol-

(based on the gamelan music of Bali & Java) Four Voices, a cappella (challenging)

(Romanian Folk Song) SATB, a cappella

(Traditional Spiritual)

SATB

(anonymous "Yiddish" text & melody)

Three-Part Treble, a cappella

(Traditional Spiritual) SSA, a cappella

INTRODUCING THE CHOIR TO FRENCH REPERTOIRE

9) Claudin de Sermisy (c.1490-1562): *Tant que vivray*Ed. Stephen Curtis, National Music Publishers NMP-192 SATB.

SATB, a cappella

10) Thoinot Arbeau (1520-1595): *Belle, Qui Tiens Ma Vie* Ed. Stephen Curtis, National Music Publishers NMP-233

SATB, a cappella

Both pieces on this Recording: French Chansons: Josquin, Jannequin, Sermisy, Lassus. The Scholars of London. 1993. Naxos 8.550880.

Other Recommended works:

Anonymous, Attaignant, 1530: Tourdion
 R. Swiggum Edition included in handout

SATB, a cappella

• Pierre Certon (c.1510-1572): *Ie ne l'o se dire (I Cannot Conceal It)* (also in other editions: *La, la, la je ne l'ose dire*) Bourne Co. ES42

SATB, a cappella

• Claude Debussy: *Dieu! Au'il la fait bon regarder!* (from *Trois Chansons*) Durand/Theodore Presser 362-03316

(Charles D'Orleans)

SATB, a cappella (more advanced)

• Three Chansons by Orlando di Lasso (Includes: Je t'aime; La nuit; Galons qui par terre)
Ed. Hawley Ades, Shawnee Press A11256
SATB, a cappella

Orlando di Lasso: Four Chansons (Includes: Sauter, Danser; Monsieur l'Abbé; Quand Mon Mari; Un Jour Vis Un Foulon)
 Ed. Francis J. Guentner, Lawson-Gould 52394
 SATB, a cappella

Claude Le Jeune (1528-1600): Revecy Venir du Printans (The Return of Springtime)
 Ed. Norman Greyson, Bourne 3177-8
 SSATB, a cappella (need 5 advanced soloists)

- The Oxford Book of French Chansons. Ed. Frank Dobbins. Oxford University Press.
- Jan P. Sweelinck (1562-1621): Tu as esté, Seigneur, nôtre Retraicte (Psalm 90)
 Ed. Paul Boepple, Mercury Music/Theodore Presser MC3
 SATB, a cappella
- Pierre Certon: *Je ne fus jamais si aise (The Sound of Pipe and Drum)*Ed. Owen, CPP Belwin SV8935

 SAB, a cappella
- Edited by Hans T. David: French Chansons of the Sixteenth Century for Two High Voices
 Includes: Pierre Certon: Je n'ose être content & Je suis tant bien; Jacotin: Je suis déshéritée; Claude de Sermisy: Auprès de vous
 Mercury Music/Theodore Presser Company 352-00054

 Two-Part, a cappella
- Claude Debussy (1862-1918): Noël des enfants qui n'ont plus de maisons
 Durand S.A./Theodore Presser mostly Two-Part Treble (limited divisi) with piano (Choral parts are separate from accompaniment)
- Jean-Baptiste Lully (1632-1687): *Ah! quelle erreur!* (from the opera *Armide*)
 Piano vocal score of the opera: Broude Brothers Limited

 SSA with piano reduction
- Claude Debussy: Salut Printemps (1882)
 Editions Choudens Paris C.F. Peters sold

Editions Choudens - Paris. C.F. Peters sole agents.

SSA, S solo, and piano

(Choral parts are separate from accompaniment) (Soprano Solo is substantial and advanced)

A recommended article:

Richard Berry, "French Diction: A Primer," Choral Journal (October 1996): 27-35.

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Where to Find It

Finding the best music may take a little more time, but only if you want something new or different. Sticking to the classic masterworks as a core curriculum is definitely an insurance of quality. If you are tired of "old war-horses", then look for *new* works by "old war-horse composers." A name like Brahms or Morley or Mozart on the piece is a pretty quick way to decide if the piece will deliver musical depth.

Some other suggestions for finding new repertoire:

- a nearby college library (peruse the collected works of great composers)
- the WSMA Festival lists (there pieces are mostly tried and true)
- recommendations from colleagues whom you trust
- convention performances (Save the programs. Make notes to yourself)
- student suggestions from their summer music camp repertoire
- reviews in professional journals / magazines
- CDs and professional recordings. Browse the good record shops.

Other repertoire ideas, issues, musings:

- Buy single copies of interesting or recommended music any time, every time! Keep a home file of these to go back to year after year. We can find interesting music, but not find a program to fit it into for several years.
- Listen to lots and lots of choral music. Collect many CDs. Go to many concerts.
- Return to favorite composers, styles, etc. Some things work really well for certain groups or ages.
- Stretch yourself and your students beyond your comfort zone -- research new styles, try new choral traditions. Isn't it good for our students to see us try new things? do extra research? find excitement in learning?
- How many centuries of choral music are represented in a given school year? cultures? traditions? genres?
- A few answers to the problem "Quality music isn't being published or is going out of print":
 - a) DON'T buy poor quality music from the publishers. DO buy high quality music from publishers and buy enough for each of your singers. In other words, please don't photocopy! Ever!
 - b) Write the publisher for permission to photocopy "out of print" music for a small fee (I have yet to be turned down by a publisher). It also lets them know that there are people who want to perform this music! Print the "paid permission to copy granted by" information on each copy. It is a great example to your students that you are respecting the rights of composers, editors, publishers, etc.!
 - c) Try searching:

Choral Public Domain Library: www.cpdl.org Handlo Music: www.handlo.com

- d) Make your own editions of music in the public domain. This takes some research, time, and effort -- but you can adjust transpositions and voicings to fit your group. You also can bring some of the exciting choral music repertoire that is not available in performance copy to your students! Music libraries with facsimiles of manuscripts and first printings as well as collected works of composers can be of great assistance in finding interesting music.
- Look in choral collections. Much of this music is available in octavo or permission to photocopy can be sought from the publisher.

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Rebecca Winnie has taught high school choral music for over 21 years and is presently at Homestead High School in Mequon, WI. She has served on the CMP committee since 1997 and especially enjoys the adventure of searching for diverse and powerful music to study with her students. rwinnie@sbcglobal.net

The packet listing the repertoire for last year's "Great Choral Treasure Hunt" is available in PDF format on the CMP website:

http://www.wmea.com/CMP/participants/repertoire/index.html Categories in the first presentation included: The Art Song, Canons, SATB "Classics" to be Revisited, Original 3-Part Mixed Music by Historical Composers, Original 3-Part Treble Music by Historical Composers, Thoughtful Folk Song Arrangements, Renaissance Homophony/Polyphonic for the Emerging Choir, "Prickly" 20th Century Compositions for Young Singers, Early American and Shape-Note Traditions, Secular Part Songs with Rich Content.

ANALYSIS

Broad Description

How would you describe this composition?

Type/Genre

(suite, motet, overture, etc.)

Background Information

- Research the style period when this was written and determine the compositional elements that make it a characteristic or uncharacteristic example of the period?
- Research the composer's life and style characteristics. Pay particular attention to those aspects that pertain to your composition and that would interest your students.
- Explore why the composer wrote this piece (e.g. commissioned for a special event or written as part of job) and determine whether it is a good example of her/his work.
- Determine who originally would have performed this piece and in what setting.
- Discuss any traditions that accompany this piece (such as standing for *The Hallelujah Chorus*)

ADDITIONAL CHORAL INFORMATION TO DETERMINE

- If the text is in a foreign language, translate it yourself and then compare it to the given translation.
- If the text is written by a famous poet or writer then research the author and poem to determine its historical/cultural significance.
- What story or mood does the text tell or create?
- Is this edition historically accurate? Can you check it against a more authentic version of the piece in a collected edition?

Additional Instrumental Information to Determine

- Describe solo requirements.
- Are the technical challenges appropriate for the target age group or level?
- Describe the quality of the transcription or arrangement.
- Is this the original instrumentation? If not, how has the original been modified for this composition and why might the arranger have made these modifications?

Background information for nonwestern, folk, or popular music:

- Find out about the country and musical tradition from which this composition comes. List style characteristics of the music tradition.
- With what instrumentation would this music be performed in its original country/culture/ or tradition?
- Who would have performed this music and for what reasons?
- What can you find out about the arranger and how well this piece represents the tradition within which it is written? How westernized is it?
- If your arrangement is based on a folksong try to find the original tune.
- Translate the text if it is not in English.
- What story or mood does the text tell or create?
- Discuss any traditions or rituals that accompany this piece. Would it have been just sung, or might there be dancing and instrumental accompaniment? Think about how these answers might affect your interpretation.

A thorough analysis of the music is a necessary foundation for significant learning and great performances

Students can participate in the analysis of a composition

While doing an analysis you may be reminded of related pieces which can serve as interesting rehearsal strategies or good programming ideas

The time invested in an analysis is directly related to the depth of student learning

Elements of Music

How are they used and *why* did the composer make the choices s/he did?

Form – What is the structure of this piece? How is the piece organized—e.g. binary, ternary, through-composed? What recognizable devices does it include—e.g. fugue, chorale, trio?

Rhythm – What are the primary motives? What note values are the most common? Is there syncopation or a peculiar time signature? Are there challenging rhythmic devices such as hemiolas and mixed meters?

Melody – What is the shape of the theme? What is the tonality — major, minor, modal, or a combination? Does it progress by step or skip? Is there a melodic motive? Is there even a melody? Are there counter-melodies that are important for the audience to hear?

Harmony – What is the harmonic rhythm? How and when does it modulate and what are the key relationships? Where are there dissonances? Are there any suspensions?

Timbre – What are the colors in the piece? Is it primarily bright or dark and what instrumentation or voicing creates the colors? How does the timbre reflect the text, title, or mood?

Texture – Is this piece primarily homophonic, monophonic, or polyphonic? Is it melody and accompaniment or monody? Does the density of the overall texture change? How does the composer contrast textures and what effect does that create?

Expression— What are the dynamics, phrases, articulations, and tempi for this piece? How and when is each element used and applied?

Additional Considerations

How does the composer create moments of tension and release?

How does the composer use and create contrast?

How does the composer unify the composition?

How does the composer sustain interest throughout the composition?

How does the instrumentation contribute to the overall effect of the composition?

How does the orchestration represent the style period?

The Heart

What attracted you to this piece of music?

What maintains your interest in it?

What gives this music its distinctive qualities?

What do you learn about yourself through the eyes of this music?

How has the composer created your response through compositional devices?

Reasons to Perform this Composition

What is the value of the music in relationship to available rehearsal time and student needs?

Things You could Teach with this Composition

Think specifically about what this composition teaches well or uniquely. Lots of music teaches phrasing or motivic development, but few pieces teach it exquisitely.

MUSIC SELECTION



A good composition, regardless of the level of difficulty, has lasting qualities

Determining the Quality of the Composition

Uniqueness Form

Design Unpredictability
Depth Consistency
Text Transcendence

Orchestration/Voicing

What do your students need?

Everyday Needs to Be Considered

ProgrammingLevel of DifficultyPersonnelLengthMaturityVoicingAudienceTechniqueTessituraSpecial guestsLiteracyInstrumentation

Community Rehearsal time available Solos

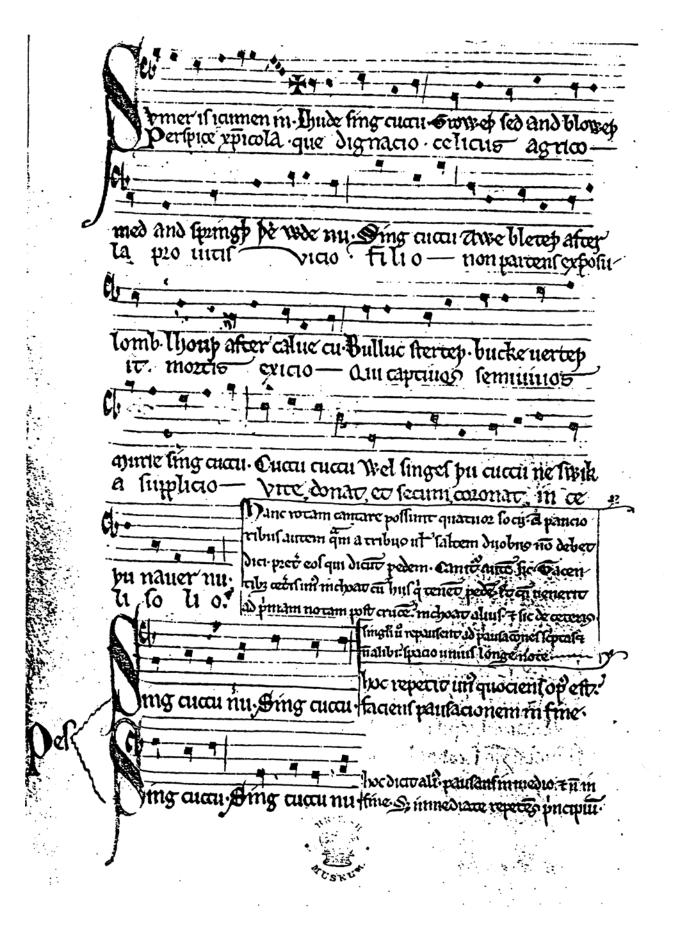
hearsal time available Solos
Accompaniment

Is the knowledge gained transferable?

Balancing the Curriculum

CHOIR

Historical Periods Multiple Music Genres Early Music Madrigal/Secular Renaissance Forms Renaissance Motet Baroque Part Song Classical Chant 19th Century Cantata 20th/21st Century/Avant Garde Oratorio Opera Chorus Other considerations: Mass **Newly Commissioned** Musical Theatre Sacred and Secular Music Vocal Jazz A Cappella and Accompanied Music Gospel Various Languages Folksong World Music



Sumer is icumen in



A Glimpse at Medieval Life: "Sumer is icumen in"

"Sumer is icumen in" is one of the most famous pieces in history. It is an example of a rota, (Latin "wheel") which was the medieval word for a round. It was probably composed in Reading, England about 1250, so it is often referred to as the "Reading Rota."

The piece has two parts that fit together. The rota itself, which is the main melody and the pes ("foot") which is sung underneath the rota. It is a remarkable example of 13th century musical ingenuity and today is probably the best known of all medieval compositions. Its beautifully illuminated manuscript is on display in the British Museum in London.

Looking at the manuscript reveals several interesting things. Underneath the "Sumer is icumen in" text there is another Latin text added "Perspice Christicola." These words are a sacred text for church use, and unrelated to the "Sumer" text. No one knows why they were added, but maybe the monk who wrote them in thought that future generations would take the "Sumer" piece more seriously with this liturgical text on the same page.

In smaller letters, enclosed in a box, are the directions for performing the piece ("Hanc rotam...").

This round can be sung by four fellows, but must not be performed by fewer than three, or at least two, apart from those performing the pes. It is sung as follows: While the others remain silent, one begins together with those who have the pes, and when he shall have come to the first note after the cross, another begins, and so on with the rest. But each shall pause at the written rests, and not elsewhere, for the duration of one long note. One singer repeats this [the first pes] as often as necessary, observing the rest at the end. Another sings this [the second pes] with a rest in the middle but not at the end, at which point he at once repeats the beginning.

The text of "Sumer is icumen in" is in Middle English; some words are still recognizable to us. The anonymous poet seems to notice every detail in nature around him coming to life (including some details we probably wouldn't notice!) The translation is:

Sumer is icumen in,
Llude sing cuccu!
Groweth sed and bloweth med,
and springth the wude nu.
Sing cuccu!
Awe bleteth after lomb,
llouth after calve cu,
Bulloc sterteth, bucke verteth,
murie sing cuccu.
Cuccu, cuccu, wel singes thu cuccu,
ne swik thu naver nu.

Summer is coming,
Loudly sing, cuckoo!
The seed grows and the meadow blooms
and the wood springs anew.
Sing, cuckoo!
The ewe bleats after the lamb,
the cow lows after her calf.
The bull leaps, the buck farts,
merrily sing cuckoo!
Cuckoo, you sing so well, cuckoo,
never cease now!

Even in the 21st century (and especially in Wisconsin!) we perk up at the first signs of warmer weather, even though we have warm homes, warm cars, warm schools, and warm clothes. It is hard to imagine how thrilling spring must have felt to someone in 13th century England who endured long, cold, damp winters (without central heating!).

Tourdion

From Neuf Bases Danses, Anonymous Attaignant, 1530 Soprano tour-ne, tour-ne, tour-ne, tour Quand je bois du vin clai - ret, a - mi, tout Alto gais, du nous bon vin Tenor donc, bien, Вu vons Bass trin mes mis, bien, Bu vons 5 bois. jou ou Αn dé - sor - mais je bois tons. ou - bli - ons tons, fai fla con res. dons nos bu vons, quons, 10 re, fai - sons - vons, bи ct tons á jam bon, d'un gras geant En man , bon, jam d'un gras geant En man

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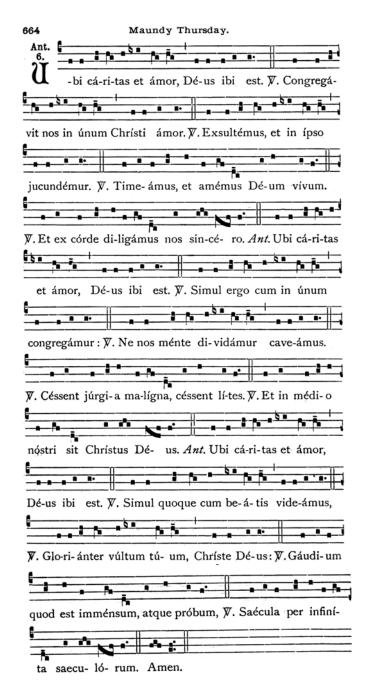
Translation

Soprano: When I drink claret, friend, everything spins, spins, spins around; also when I drink (wines from) Anjou or Arbois. Let's sing and drink, my friends, and make war on this flagon.

Alto: Good wine has cheered us up. Let's sing and forget our troubles. While we're eating this juicy ham, let's attack this flagon.

Tenor: Let's drink up; drink then and attack the flagon. While we're eating this juicy ham, let's attack this flagon.

Bass: Drink up, my friends, let's see the bottom of the glass. While we're eating this juicy ham, let's attack this flagon.

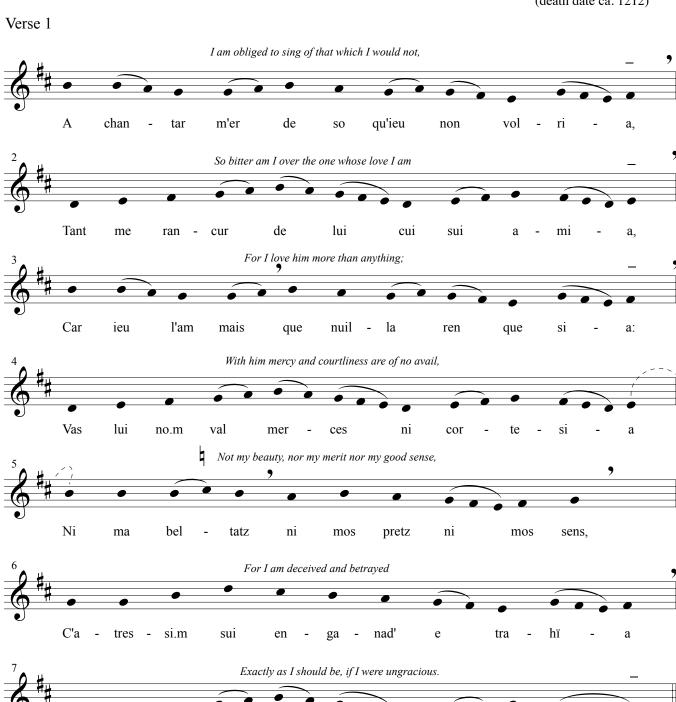






A chantar m'er de so qu'ieu non volria A Trobairitz Canso

Beatriz de Dia (La Comtessa) (death date ca. 1212)



fos

de

vi -

nens.

s'ieu

Com

de

gr'es -

ser

A Chantar Vocal Drones

Beatriz de Dia

A Chantar violin drones

RRW Edition, 1/11/02

The drones change on the last note of each line of the melody.

1.

A chantar m'er de so qu'ieu non volria, Tant me rancur de lui cui sui amia, Car ieu l'am mais que nuilla ren que sia: Vas lui no.m val merces ni cortesia Ni ma beltatz ni mos pretz ni mos sens, C'atressi.m sui enganad' e trahïa Com degr' esser, s'ieu fos desavinens.

2.

D'aisso.m conort car anc non fi faillenssa, Amics, vas vos per nuilla, captenenssa, Anz vos am mais non fetz Seguis Valenssa, [*] E platz mi mout quez eu d'amar vos venssa, Lo mieus amics, car etz lo plus valens; Mi faitz orguoill enditz et en parvenssa, E si etz francs vas totas autras gens.

3.

Meravill me com vostre cors s'orguoilla Amics, vas me, per qu'ai razon qu'ieu.m duoilla Non es ges dreitz c'autr'amors vos mi tuoilla Per nuilla ren qu'ie.us diga ni acuoilla; E membre vos cals fo.l comenssamens De nostr'amor! ja Dompnedieus non vuoilla Qu'en ma colpa sia.l departimens.

4.

Proesa grans qu'el vostre cors s'aizina E lo rics pretz qu'avetz m'en ataîna, C'una non sai, loindana ni vezina, Si vol amar, vas vos non si'aclina; Mas vos, amics, etz ben tant conoissens Que ben devetz conoisser las plus fina, E membre vos de nostres convinens.

5.

Valer mi deu mos pretz e mos paratges E ma beltatz e plus mos fis coratges, Per qu'ieu vos man lai on es vostr' estatges Esta chansson que me sia messatges: Ieu vuoill saber, lo mieus bels amics gens, Per que vos m'etz tant fers ni tant salvatges, Non sai, si s'es orguoills o maltalens.

6.

Mas aitan plus voill qe.us diga.l messatges Qu'en trop d'orguoill ant gran dan maintas gens.

[* Seguin is probably the hero of a lost romance, known for his love of Valensa.]

1.

I am obliged to sing of that which I would not, So bitter am I over the one whose love I am, For I love him more than anything; With him mercy and courtliness are of no avail, Not my beauty, nor my merit nor my good sense, For I am deceived and betrayed Exactly as I should be, if I were ungracious.

2.

I comfort myself because never was I at fault,
Friend, towards you on account of any behavior,
Rather I love you more than Seguin [loved] Valensa, [*]
And it pleases me greatly that I vanquish you in love,
My friend, because you are the most valiant;
You are haughty to me in words and appearance,
And yet you are so affable towards all others.

3.

I am astonished at how you become haughty, Friend, towards me, and I have reason to grieve; It is not right that another love take you from me On account of anything said or granted to you. I recall to you how it was at the beginning Of our love! May God never wish That my guilt be the cause of separation.

4.

The great valor which dwells in you
And your noble worth retain me,
For I know of no woman, far or near,
Who, if she wishes to love, would not incline toward you;
But you, friend, are so discerning
That you certainly must discern the finest,
And I remind you of our agreement.

5.

My worth and my nobility,
My beauty and my faithful heart should help me;
That is why I send there to your dwelling
This song, that it may be my messenger.
I want to know, my fine and noble friend,
Why you are so cruel and harsh with me;
I don't know if it is haughtiness or ill will.

6.

But I especially want the messenger to tell you That many people are harmed by excess pride.

Translation by Margaret Switten, The Medieval Lyric

Sources:

Primary Sources

The Medieval Lyric. A project supported by The National Endowment for the Humanities and Mount Holyoke College. Margaret Switten, Director. Box 1974, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA 01075. 4 Volumes and recordings. 1987. Revised 1988. www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/medst/medieval_lyric.

Le Manuscrit du Roi. Fascimile. Published by Jean Baptiste Beck. 1938.

Additional Sources

The Extant Troubadour Melodies: Transcriptions and Essays for Performers and Scholars. Hendrik van der Werf. Gerald A. Bond, text editor. Rochester, New York, 1984.

The Chansons of the Troubadours and Trouvères: A study of the melodies and their relation to the poems. Hendrik van der Werf. A. Oosthoek's Uitgerversmaatschappij NV Utrecht. 1972.

Songs of the Women Trouvères. Edited, Translated, and Introduced by Eglal Doss-Quinby, Joan Tasker Brimbert, Wendy Pfeffer, Elizabeth Aubrey. Yale University Press, New Haven & London. 2001.

Norton Anthology of Western Music. Third Edition. Volume 1. Claude V. Palisca. W.W. Norton & Company, New York.1996.

Recommended Recordings:

The Medieval Lyric. (see above)

Bella Domna: The Medieval Woman: Lover, Poet, Patroness and Saint Sinfonye. Stevie Wishart, Director. Hyperion CDA 66283.

The Romance of the Rose: Feminine Voices From Medieval France. Heliotrope. Koch 3-7103-2 H1.

Montsegur: La Tragedie Cathare. La Nef. Dorian DOR-90243.

Troubadours, Trouvères, Minstrels Studio der Frühen Musik. Thomas Binkley. Teldec 4509-97938-2.

A Mediaeval Banquet: Music from the Age of Chivalry. Martin Best Mediaeval Consort. Nimbus Records. NI 1753.

Norton Recorded Anthology of Western Music. Vol. 1, CD 1. W.W. Norton & Company. Sony Music Entertainment, Inc. 1996. PN 10142.

Old Provençal Pronunciation:

(as presented in *The Medieval Lyric*)

Vowels are pure and similar to Italian.

The closed "O" is more closed than Italian

-- close to [u].

The open "O" is more closed also, -- close to [o].

There are no nasal vowels.

All consonants are pronounced.

The "I" is most often palatalized, esp. "il, ill"

(as in the Italian "egli" or the English "million")

A complete Performing Edition Created by Rebecca Renee Winnie Is available. Contact: rwinnie@sbcglobal.net

 $\sim \sim \sim \sim \sim$ The melody can be sung with voice alone or with drones. The drones can be vocal and/or instrumental.

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Program Note

Although most of the extant troubadour songs of the middle ages were written by men, there did exist in 12th century southern France a small group of possibly 18-20 women *trobairitz* (female troubadours). Only a few of these are represented by extant poetry, and for only one of these, "A chantar," do we have music. This strophic song, or *canso*, was written by the enigmatic Comtessa Beatriz de Dia, who is described a century later in a biographical tale as "a good and beautiful woman, the wife of Guillaume de Poitiers and the lover of Rambaud d'Orange, about whom she wrote many good and beautiful songs." Manuscript illuminations portray the Comtessa as the most noble and distinguished of the *trobairitz*.

The *trobairitz* repertory is significant as the largest body of women's lyric poetry from the medieval period. Although women experienced a general decline in social position from the 10th to the 13th centuries, medieval society did foster the participation of noble women in diverse aspects of culture, most notably the poetry of courtly love.

Medieval marriages were not expected to be accompanied by love and, especially for women, were often arranged for political expediency and at a very young age. In this culture, courtly love was more likely to be expressed outside the boundaries of marriage. According to courtly conventions, a poet vows selfless service to a beloved, who was often the spouse of another noble. This code of love was not only a poetic convention and an inspiration for poetry - it was a practical means to attain the object of desire.

This *canso*, exploits the themes of the male poets, but with a tinge of irony reverses them, as the woman poet applies them to herself. The Comtessa seems to be suggesting that the actions of the knight or lover belie his fine words. What does a male poet mean when he sends a beautiful song-message to his lady? His self-centeredness is laid bare.

This *canso* would have almost certainly been performed by a solo voice, but we have little or no information on 12th century performance practice. In this version, the voices serve sometimes as a solo, and sometimes as instrumental drone. In the Middle Ages, the medieval fiddle was second in esteem only to the human voice, and was considered particularly expressive and suitable for accompanying it.

- R. Swiggum

Miri it is





Leman: woman, sweetheart (pronounced "lay-mun") I wis: certainly, I know, (pronounced "ee-wiss") Alack: Alas!

Robyn's Friend: Hey Robin, good Robyn, how are things going with you and your girl? Tell me, and I'll tell you about mine.

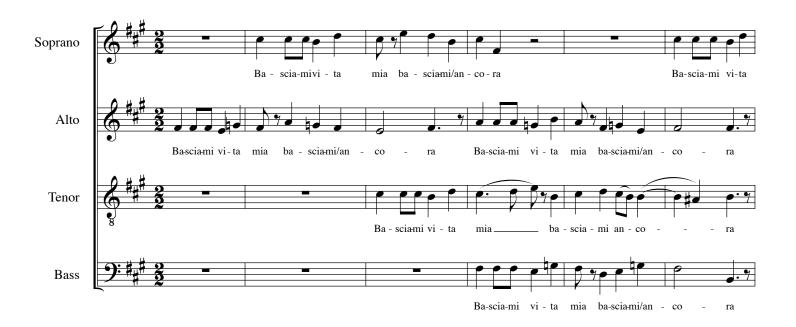
Robyn: My girl is not so friendly lately--I can't figure out why.

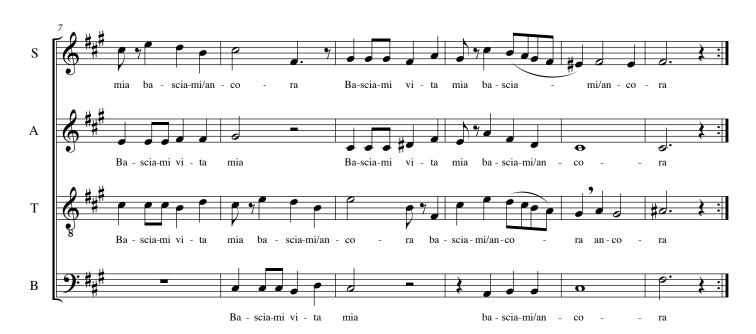
I think she loves someone else, but she won't admit it.

Robyn's Friend: Not the same for me--l think women are faithful. For sure, my girl loves me--she wouldn't think of being unfaithful.

Basciami, vita mia

Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)





Kiss me, My Life, continually. Kiss me, enough to satisfy me. I do not want my mother to scold me.

(as in "Kiss me quick, before my mom finds us and scolds me!)





