

Concise History of Western Music 5th edition

Barbara Russano Hanning

WESTERN MUSIC

BARBARA RUSSANO HANNING

FIFTH EDITION



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Chapter

7

Secular Song and National Styles in the Sixteenth Century



Prelude

- New flowering of national styles in secular vocal music
 - development of music printing, 1501
 - wider dissemination
 - vocal music: amateurs sing in vernacular
 - trend toward diverse national genres and styles
 - printing changed economics of music
 - music sold as a commodity
 - sixteenth century: first among upper classes
 - ability to read notation, perform from printed music: expected social grace
 - Baldassarre Castiglione's influential Book of Courtier (1528)



Prelude (cont'd)

- New flowering of national styles in secular vocal music (cont'd)
 - paintings show singers, instrumentalists, reading from published music
 - Italian madrigal: poets and composers, interest in humanism
 - influence later French chansons, English madrigals, lute songs
 - through madrigal, Italy became leader in European music



The Rise of National Styles: Italy and Spain

- Frottola and lauda
 - strophic, 4-part homophonic songs with refrains
 - melody in upper voice
 - simple diatonic harmonies
 - syllabic setting to catchy rhythms
 - frottole: entertainment in sophisticated Italian courts
 - laude: semipublic religious gatherings
 - Petrucci published eleven frottole and two laude collections



The Rise of National Styles: Italy and Spain (cont'd)

- Frottola and lauda (cont'd)
 - frottola example (NAWM 55)
- Villanella, canzonetta, and balletto
 - villanella
 - three voices, lively homophonic strophic piece
 - sometimes mocked more sophisticated madrigal
 - canzonetta (little song) and balletto (little dance)
 - balletti: intended for dancing as well as singing or playing
 - "Fa-la-la" refrains



The Rise of National Styles: Italy and Spain (cont'd)

- Villanella, canzonetta, and balletto (cont'd)
 - both genres imitated by German and English composers
- Villancico
 - Ferdinand and other Spanish courts encouraged development of Spanish music
 - especially cultivated the villancico
 - most important form of secular polyphonic song in Renaissance Spain
 - composed for aristocracy



The Rise of National Styles: Italy and Spain (cont'd)

- Villancico (cont'd)
 - texts usually rustic or popular subjects
 - preference for simplicity: short, strophic, syllabic, mostly homophonic
- Juan del Encina (1468–1529)
 - leading composer of villancicos, first Spanish playwright
 - Oy comamos y bebamos (Today let's eat and drink, NAWM 54)
 - melodically simple, dancelike rhythms, frequent metrical shifts



F07-01



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The Italian Madrigal

- Italian song linked with currents in Italian poetry
 - renewed appreciation for Petrarch
 - Pietro Bembo praises Petrarch
 - piacevolezza ("pleasingness") and gravità ("seriousness")
 - remarkable ability to match sound qualities of verses with meanings
 - Petrarchan movement attracted composers
 - early madrigalists use Petrarch texts
 - elevated and serious tone



- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century
 - Italy assumed leading role in European music for the first time
 - madrigal texts:
 - artful and elevated poetry
 - scenes and allusions borrowed from pastoral poetry
 - texts by major poets
 - heroic or sentimental, sensual as century progressed
 - composers dealt freely with poetry
 - through-composed settings
 - variety of homophonic and contrapuntal textures



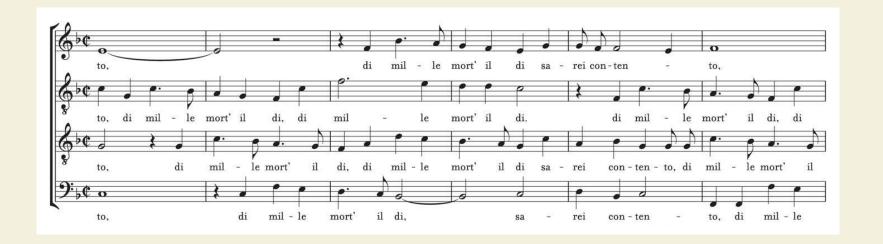
- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - voices play equal roles
 - aimed to match artfulness of poetry; convey images and emotions
 - social settings
 - written for enjoyment of singers
 - mixed groups of women and men
 - social gatherings, after meals, meetings of academies
 - great demand for madrigals
 - 2,000 collections published between 1530 and 1600



- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - Concerto delle donne, established by Alfonso d'Este duke of Ferrara, 1580
 - trio of trained singers, appointed as ladies in waiting
 - increasing separation between performer and audience
 - development of highly trained performers
 - composers address listening audience
 - increased dramatic and extrovert genre
 - Jacques Arcadelt (ca. 1507–1568)
 - Franco-Flemish composer, sang in pope's chapel



Ex07-01





- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - *Il bianco e dolce cigno* (The white and sweet swan, 1538; NAWM 56)
 - among most famous of early madrigals
 - text alludes to sexual climax, "a little death"
 - "death that in dying fills me full with joy and desire"
 - musical setting plays with poetic conceits
 - homophonic texture: contentment; imitative entrances: sexual connotations
 - Cipriano de Rore (1516–1565)
 - leading midcentury madrigalist
 - Flemish by birth, worked in Italy



Ex07-02



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- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - succeeded Willaert as music director at St. Mark's in Venice
 - Da le belle contrade d'oriente (From the fair regions of the East, ca. 1560–65; NAWM 57)
 - sonnet modeled on Petrarch
 - expanded range of five voices; changing combination of voices
 - musical details match sense and feeling of poem
 - grief and sorrow: falling m3rds, semitones and m7th
 - chromaticism
 - as part of humanist revival, mid-sixteenth century composers embraced chromaticism



- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - Le istitutioni harmoniche (Harmonic Foundations, 1558), Zarlino
 - instructed composers to set words with music
 - semitones effective for expressing sorrow
 - Rore introduces notes outside the mode
 - Luca Marenzio (1553–1599)
 - leading late madrigalists were native Italians
 - Marenzio spent most of his career in Rome
 - most prolific: over 400 madrigals
 - favored pastoral poetry



F07-02



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- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - Solo e pensoso (Alone and pensive, 1599; NAWM 58), setting of Petrarch sonnet
 - madrigalisms: striking musical images evoke text almost literally
 - "deliberate and slow": long note values
 - "flee": quickly moving figures in close imitation
 - Nicola Vicentino (1511–ca. 1576)
 - proposed reviving chromatic and enharmonic genera of ancient Greeks
 - L'antica musica ridotta alla moderna prattica (Ancient Music Adapted to Modern Practice, 1555)



- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - designed harpsichord and organ divided into quarter tones
 - Carlo Gesualdo, prince of Venosa (ca. 1561–1613)
 - aristocrat amateur, sought publication
 - murdered his wife and her lover
 - imaginative madrigals; themes of torment and death
 - sharp contrasts: diatonic and chromatic passages, dissonance and consonance, chordal and imitative textures, slow- and fast-moving rhythmic motives



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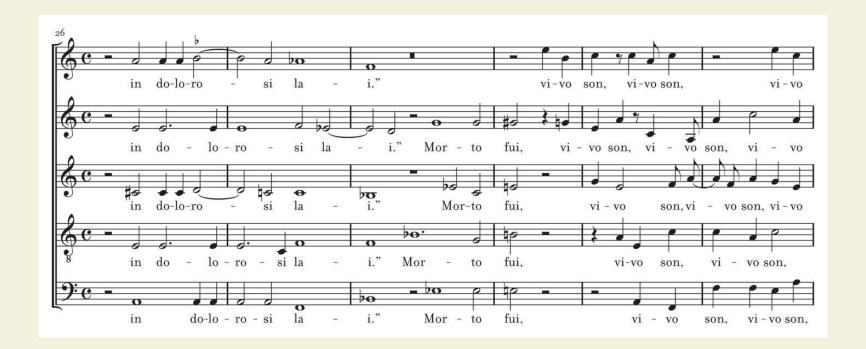
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- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - "Io parto" e non più dissi ("I am leaving," and I said no more, 1611; NAWM 59)
 - woman's tearful pleas: slow, chromatic, mostly chordal
 - man's return to life after symbolic, sexual death: faster, diatonic, imitative
 - continuity by avoiding conventional cadences, tonal coherence at important moments
 - Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643)
 - made crucial stylistic transition: polyphonic vocal ensemble to instrumentally accompanied song for duet or larger ensembles



Ex07-03





- Italian madrigal dominated secular music in the sixteenth century (cont'd)
 - published eight books of madrigals
 - expressive power
 - combination of homophonic and contrapuntal writing
 - sensitivity to sound and meaning of text
 - free use of chromaticism and dissonance
 - certain features move toward new idiom: declamatory motives
 - Cruda Amarilli (Cruel Amaryllis, NAWM 71)



- New type of chansons developed during reign of Francis I (r. 1515–47)
 - four voices, light, fast, strongly rhythmic
 - playful, amorous situations allowed for double meanings
 - syllabic text setting, repeated notes, duple meter
 - principal melody in highest voice, homophonic, occasional points of imitation
 - short sections in simple patterns, e.g. aabc or abca
 - strophic repetitive forms, no word-painting



F07-04



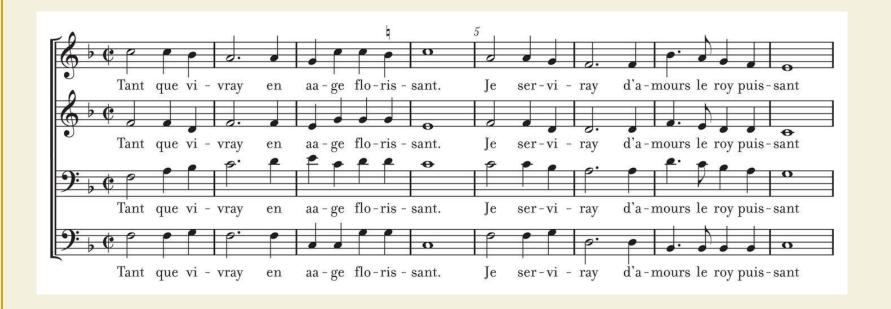
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- New type of chansons developed during reign of Francis I (r. 1515–47) (cont'd)
 - focus on tuneful melodies, pleasing rhythms
 - ideally suited for amateur performance
 - Pierre Attaingnant (ca. 1494—ca. 1551/2), first French music printer
 - more than fifty collections, 1,500 pieces
 - Claudin de Sermisy (ca. 1490–1562) and Clément Janequin (ca. 1485–ca. 1560)



Ex07-04





- New type of chansons developed during reign of Francis I (r. 1515–47) (cont'd)
 - principal composers in Attaingnant's early chanson collections
 - Sermisy's Tant que vivray (NAWM 60)
 - typical lighthearted text, optimistic love poem
 - melody in top voice, harmony of 3rds, 5ths, occasional 6th above the bass
 - accented dissonances rather than syncopated suspension before a cadence
 - opening long-short-short rhythm common



- New type of chansons developed during reign of Francis I (r. 1515–47) (cont'd)
 - Janequin
 - lyrical love songs, narrative songs, bawdy songs
 - imitations of birdsong, street cries, battle sounds
 - Orlande de Lassus mixed traditions
 - some in new homophonic style
 - others show influence of Italian madrigal or Franco-Flemish tradition
 - wide range of subject matters
 - acutely attuned to text, music fit its rhythm
 - La nuict froide et sombre (NAWM 61)



- Late sixteenth century: Italian culture brought to England
 - 1560s, Italian madrigals circulated to England
 - *Musica transalpina* (Music from across the Alps), 1588
 - Italian madrigals translated into English
 - spurred native composers to write their own
 - leading English madrigalists: Thomas Morley (1557/8–1602) and Thomas Weelkes (ca. 1575–1623)
 - Thomas Morley



F07-05



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- Late sixteenth century: Italian culture brought to England (cont'd)
 - earliest and most prolific
 - also wrote canzonets and balletts
 - My bonny lass she smileth (NAWM 63)
 - borrowed aspects of Gastoldi balletto
 - sections begin homophonically
 - contrapuntal "fa-la-la" refrain
 - The Triumphes of Oriana (1601)
 - collection of twenty-five madrigals by different composers
 - each madrigal ends with "Long live fair Oriana" referring to Queen Elizabeth



- Late sixteenth century: Italian culture brought to England (cont'd)
 - Weelke's As Vesta was (NAWM 64)
 - most famous from Morley's collection
 - poem by Weelkes, opportunities for musical depiction
 - "Long live fair Oriana" set to motive that enters almost fifty times
 - early 1600s, lute song (or air) became prominent
 - solo song with accompaniment
 - John Dowland (1563–1626) and Thomas Campion (1567–1620), leading composers



F07-06



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- Late sixteenth century: Italian culture brought to England (cont'd)
 - personal genre, no aura of social play, less word-painting
 - lute accompaniments: rhythmic and melodic independence
 - issued in partbooks
 - voice and lute parts vertically aligned; singers accompany themselves
 - lute part written in tablature
 - Dowland's Flow, my tears (NAWM 65), from Second Book of Ayres (1600)



- Late sixteenth century: Italian culture brought to England (cont'd)
 - best known to his contemporaries
 - spawned over 200 variations and arrangements
 - form of a pavane, aabbCC
 - minimal depiction of individual words; music matches dark mood of the poetry
 - performance
 - written primarily for unaccompanied solo voices
 - instruments sometimes doubled or replaced voices



F07-07



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TIMELINE

| Musical Events | 1496 Encina publishes Cancionero (NAWM 54) 1501 Petrucci publishes Odhecaton A 1504–1514 Petrucci issues thirteen frottola collections 1521 Josquin dies | 1528 Attaingnant publishes collection of chansons 1538 Arcadelt publishes II bianco e dolce cigno (NAWM 56) 1558 Zarlino, Le istitutioni harmoniche 1566 Rore publishes Da le Econtrade d'oriente (NAWM 57) | 1580 Concerto delle donne established 1588 Yonge, Musica transalpina 1595 Morley publishes My bonny lass she smileth (NAWM 63) | |
|-------------------|---|---|--|---|
| | 1500 | | | 1600 |
| Historical Events | 1504 Michelangelo, David 1519–1556 Charles V, Holy Roma emperor 1528 Castiglione, The Book Courtier | n Copi Revo Sphe | peth I becomes queen of | 1590 Spenser, The Faerie Queene, Books 1–3 1594 Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet ca. 1595 Caravaggio, The Lute Player (Figure 7.7) |



Postlude

- Developments in sixteenth century included emergence of new secular genres
 - Franco-Flemish style encountered native traditions of Italy, France, and Spain
 - driven by spirit of humanism
 - sought close rapport between music and text
- Midcentury sought even closer bond
 - tilted balance toward expression of poem's contrasting feelings and images
 - madrigal became more extroverted and declamatory

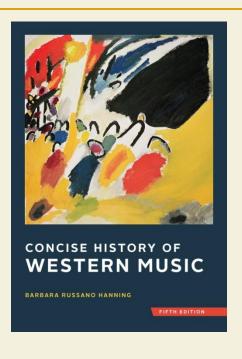


Postlude (cont'd)

- Midcentury sought even closer bond (cont'd)
 - composers explored chromaticism
 - Italian music dominated for the first time
- French and English composers took up Italian trends



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This concludes the Lecture Slide Set for Chapter 7

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