

Que vous ma dame - In pace in idipsum

Josquin Desprez (ca 1450 - Condé sur Escaut 1521)

Josquin - Que vous madame

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The musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is soprano, the second is alto, the third is bass, and the bottom is basso continuo. The lyrics are as follows:

Soprano: Gar-de n'a ver qu'il se par - ju -
Se nul - - le da - me me con - - ju -

Alto: - de n'a ver qu'il se, qu'il se
nul - - le da - - - me me me

Bass: - - - - -

Basso continuo: - - - - -

The score includes several fermatas and a double bar line with repeat dots.

27

re,
re,

gar
nul

de
le
da

ver,
me,

par
con

ju
ju

re
re,

am,

dor -

mi -

am,

dor -

32

gar - de n'a - ver, qu'il me se par -
nul - le da - me me con -
se par - ju - re qu'il me se par - ju -
con - ju - re, mi am,

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re. U - ne fois a vous_____ vous me don -
se par - ju - re. U - ne fois a vous me don-nay Et
con - ju - re.

45

- cam, si_____

48

nay Et de - re - cef cer - tes m'y don - ne On -
de - re - cef cer - tes m'y don - ne On -
de de - - - - - - - -

52

- ques riens_____ mieux je n'or - don - nay Se
que riens mieux je n'or - don - nay Se
ro som - num o -

55

58

vos - tre gra - - ce a moy s'a -
vos - tre gra-ce a moy s'a -
cu - lis me - - - - - - - -

61

don - - - - - ne.
don - - - - - ne.

Notes on Josquin, Que vous ma dame – In pace in idipsum.

I made this edition from Smijers Wereldlijke werken II-53 nr. 47. I positioned the texts and made the translations in English. Especially a translation in Dutch on the site of the Collegium Vocale Gent was very helpful, though not faultless.

The original clefs are C1, C3, F3. The F3 indicates that these are high clefs, so the song should be performed one 5th down. The f' can hardly be sung by male voices. I add a transposed version, alla quinta bassa.

Published by Petrucci Canti C (1503). Petrucci also gives a contra-tenor, which is absent in all other (manuscript) sources.

The texts has been supplied by a London manuscript. Smijers gives from this manuscript one more stanza for the second part, but it appeared from the sound of the words and the number of syllables that it should be placed under the first part, making it to be sung and played ABA. The Latin text is a fragment of psalm 4 and psalm 131 (Vulgate number), sung in monasteries every normal Sunday night in the compline, resp. Thursday night in the vespers. So it seems to be a spiritual song to St. Mary, and not a love song.

Smijers's edition has some readings of the text which differ from other versions I found in the web. I could not consult the manuscripts nor NJE, so make your own choice: line 4 aver Smijers: avez others; line 9 imjure Smijers: l'injure others; line 10 d'autre Smijers: s'autre others; franchis Smijers: franchise others (but in that case the -e should be elided).

One manuscript divides the brevis in the Tenor of bar 58 in two notes; so *grace* may be sung as two syllables. The manuscripts are unanimous in all other “difficult” places, like *d'(or s')autre a* and *franchis(e)*. The numbers of syllables and the division of words of the first and third stanza do not match. That resulted in some less usual text positioning.

Translation of the French text:

Nobody, my lady, I swear it,/ serves nor will serve you more than I do/ and as long as your servant will be alive,/ be sure, that he will not break his oath.

Once I gave myself to you/ and again, truly, I give myself;/ never I could arrange something better/ if your favour turns upon me.

A great insult would be said to me/ telling that another lady enslaves my availability,/ and I would deserve to be dead/ if another lady won my heart.

Translation of the Latin text:

In peace I will immediately get asleep and rest; if I will give sleep to my eyes.

Arnold den Teuling, Assen, December 2012

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alla quinta bassa

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Soprano (S) Treble clef, common time, key signature one flat. Bassoon (B) Bass clef.

Que _____
Gran - de vous _____
me _____ soit.
Que _____
Gran - de vous _____
me _____ soit.
ma soit da - dic - me je le ju -
te l'in - ju -
me te

In pa - - - -

Tenor (T) Treble clef, common time, key signature one flat.

re re
N'est D'aul - ne se - - ra de moy -
je l'in - - ju - - re N'est ne se - - ra de moy -
l'in - - ju - - re D'aul - - tre a ma fran - chis as -
ce

Bassoon (B) Bass clef, common time, key signature one flat.

ser - vi - e Et tant qu'au vueil - - a -
ser - vi - e Et tant qu'au vueil a - ra voir
in id

Bassoon (B) Bass clef, common time, key signature one flat.

ra vost tre serf vi - - - - e
voir des - - - - vi - - - - e
vos - - - - serf vi - - - - e Gar -
des - - - - ser vi - - - - e Se -
ip - - - - sum;

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Gar-de n'a nul - - - le ver qu'il se par - ju -
Se _____ nul - - - da - me me con - ju - dor - - - mi - - -

27

- - - re, re, gar nul - de n'a - - - ver, me,
par - - - ju - - - - - - - - re, re, qu'il me
am, dor - - - mi - - am, dor -

32

gar nul - de n'a - - - ver, me, qu'il me se par - - - - - - - - se par - ju - - - re, qu'il me se par - - - ju - - - - - - - - mi - - am, dor - - - mi - - am

37

- ju - - - - - - re, re, qu'il me se par - - - ju - - - - - - - - re, qu'il me es - - - - - - - - et re - - qui - - - - - - - - es - - - - - - -

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45

48

52

55

58

61