

GAMBA MUSIC CLUB

Four Settings of *FORS SEULEMENT*

Johannes Ockeghem c1430-1496

Antoine de Févin c1474-11512

Jörg Blawkenmüller fl 1540

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Johannes Ockeghem c1430 - 1496

Flemish composer. A reference to him as a choir boy appears in the records of Antwerp Cathedral from 1443 - 1444. At around 1452 he entered the service of the French King, Charles VII where in 1454 he is styled as "Johannes Hoquegan, premier chapelain". In 1461, the year of Charles VII's death he is at the head of the list of court musicians taking part in the ceremonies. He remained in the court of Louis XI until his death in 1496.

At his death his music was some-what out of fashion, however there were significant developments during his period of supremacy and he is regarded as the founder of the second or new Netherland school. This was a move from the style of Dufay and Binchois. He was also a great teacher and among his pupils were some distinguished composers such as Josquin and La Rue.

Antoine de Févin c1474 - 1512

Févin achieved fame and respect during his short life. He may have been a pupil of Josquin. *Glaremus* describes him as 'the happy emulator or imitator of Josquin.' Rabelais (Book IV, Prologue) mentions him as among the elect of musicians surrounding Josquin.

Translations

One

Except in awaiting death, in my faint heart there lives no hope, for my misfortune so strongly torments me, that there is no pain that I do not feel for you, because I am quite sure to lose you.

Two

Except only for what I have promised, I will be much sought after everywhere, and I will make a good match. Even since my childhood I have desired this, and I do not want to have enemies.

Three

Excepting death, with no other expectation of comfort, in such sorrow, I have adopted today a position of spite, as one who is desolate remains near to wearisomeness and far from hope.