Susato, Liber tertius sacrarum cantionum (4vv) [Antwerp, 1547]
Leiden, Archieven van de Kerken, Ms. 1441 (Koorboek IV / Codex D) [Leiden, c.1565]




(Responsory for Matins of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Jacobus Clemens was one of the most prolific composers of the musical generation between Josquin and Palestrina (his output includes more than 200 motets, 100 secular works, 15 masses, and 150 Dutch psalm settings), though little detail is known of his life in comparison to many of his Franco-Flemish High Renaissance contemporaries. His birthdate is uncertain, and the first unambiguous appearance of his name was in Pierre Attaingnant's publication of a collection of his chansons in the late 1530 s. In the 1540 s , from which period this motet possibly dates, he served as succentor at Bruges cathedral and then in the court of Charles V (where he was succeeded by Nicolas Gombert). Although his music spread throughout Europe, it seems that Clemens never left the low countries: indeed, his music exhibits no Italian influence, instead portraying the continually flowing and relatively dense contrapuntal style typical of the region and period. His name appears as "Clemens non Papa" in many of the publications of his music, though the origin of this is unclear: it may have been used to distinguish him from Pope Clement VII, though Clemens's fame came some years after the Pope's death in 1534. As with his birthdate, the date and nature of Clemens's death are uncertain: evidence in publications bounds its timing to 1555 or 1556, and the text of Jacobus Vaet's deploration Continuo lacrimas (in mortem Clementis non Papæ), published in 1558, suggests Clemens may have met a violent end ("inclemens vis ac violentia fati").

## Editorial Notes:

This edition is taken from two sources: Susato's Liber tertius sacrarum cantionum, published in Antwerp in 1547 (the earliest known source, and the only one published during Clemens's lifetime), and the fourth volume of the Leiden Choirbooks (NL-L MS 1441), published in about 1565. Non-concordance of these sources, as referenced throughout this edition, is as follows (where 'm.6.2' refers to the second symbol in the sixth bar, etc.):

1. (Superius, m.6.2, m.68.2; Contratenor, m.44.4; Bassus, m.38.4, m.43.4): note is not present, preceding note is $\mathbf{o}$, in NL-L MS 1441
2. (Superius, m16.4): A in Susato (presumed erroneous)
3. (Contratenor, m.16.4-17.1; Tenor, m.22.5-6; Bassus, m.49.1): $d d$ in Susato
4. (Contratenor, m.20.1): E in Susato (presumed erroneous)
5. (Contratenor, m.38.1-2): - and D d in Susato
6. (Bassus, m.52.3-5): $d d d$ in NL-L MS 1441
7. (Tenor, m.67.1-2): d. d in Susato

Editorial accidentals are indicated above the note. Original note values are retained: thus, consistent with 16th-century convention, the $\$$ mensuration sign and its modern-equivalent C time signature signify a semibreve tactus. Bar lines are added only to aid reading and direction: 'strong' and 'weak' beats implied by their position should never take precedence over phrasing or word stress. Coloration in the sources is acknowledged with overarching open brackets. Word underlay is based on Susato's: given the ambiguity of word underlay in 16 th-century manuscripts, editorial adjustments have been made freely, and reiteration or addition of text (including where implied in the source by the marking ' $i j$ ') is indicated in italic.

