

(2/6) 21M.220 (EARLY MUSIC): OUTLINE

1. Welcome—Scope of Early Music
2. Chant: What is it and Why study it?
3. Today(=Feb 6)'s perspective: around *ca.* 800–1000
  - a. Doves, Spirits, and Gregory the Great (pontificate: 590–604)
  - b. Charlemagne (*ca.* 800) and the Carolingian “Renaissance”
4. Cycles of the Year
  - a. Fixed and Mobile Cycles
  - b. Proper of the Time
    - i. Two anchor points: Christmas and Easter
    - ii. Each governs periods of the year:
      1. Christmas: Advent, Christmas→Epiphany, Sundays after Epiphany
      2. Easter: Septuagesima, Lent, Passiontide (2 Sundays before Easter), Pascal time, Sundays after Pentecost (50 days after Easter)
    - iii. Where are we? Implications?
  - c. Proper of the Saints
    - i. Fixed days of the year
    - ii. Ranked in solemnity to solve conflicts with Proper of the Time
    - iii. Differ according to local tradition
  - d. Why do these matter?
    - i. Determine the prayers to be used
    - ii. Determine the chants to be sung
    - iii. Determine the solemnity of the melodies to be sung
    - iv. Later might determine which additions to chant (polyphony, new texts, etc.) will be used.
5. Mass, Office, and the Cycles of the Day
  - a. Mass vs. Office
    - i. Mass primarily as a celebration and reenactment of the communion Eucharist, that is, the Lord's Supper
    - ii. Celebrated in cathedrals, churches, and monasteries on either a daily or, in small places, weekly basis
    - iii. Office is observed throughout the day at monasteries and also in larger secular churches (secular churches? what?)
    - iv. Office revolves around the singing of the Psalms, a tradition inherited from Jewish rites. In one week, all 150 Psalms are sung.

- b. Mass
  - i. Proper and Ordinary
    - 1. Proper change both text and music for the day
    - 2. Ordinary changes just music daily (if that!), the text is always the same
  - ii. Ordinary:
    - 1. Kyrie
    - 2. Gloria
    - 3. Credo
    - 4. Sanctus
    - 5. Agnus Dei
    - 6. (Ite Missa Est)
  - iii. In later centuries, the Ordinary will most commonly have new music written for it, why?
- c. Office
  - i. Originally involved keeping watch (Vigil) all night, so the night hours are the traditionally most important.
  - ii. Eight in all (major hours in bold)
 

1. <b>Matins</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>After midnight</b>
2. <b>Lauds</b>	<b>At daybreak</b>
3. Prime	6 or 7 a.m.
4. Terce	9 a.m.
5. Sext	noon
6. None	3 p.m.
7. <b>Vespers</b>	<b>Early evening (6pm?)</b>
8. <b>Compline</b>	<b>Before bed (8pm?)</b>
  - iii. Times vary over course of the year because of length of days.

6. Pause: Syllabus, Info Sheet, and Course Description

7. Reading Modern Chant notation

8. Types of chants: Melismatic, Neumatic, and Syllabic.

9. Recitation and Chant

10. The Office of Sext for Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Assignment for class 2: see syllabus

<sup>1</sup> not at the morning as any French training you might have would suggest.