



"Fortune grants me comfort and hope" | "Glück mir trost und hoffnug geit"

Text Information

Author | Erhard Oeglin

Language | Early New High German

Period | 16th Century

Genre | Lyric Verse/Song

Source | Bayerische Staatsbibliothek München 00082229 Rar.27 Stimme T f.15r

Collection | Love Songs of the Medieval World: Lyrics from Europe and Asia

URL | sourcebook.stanford.edu/text/oeglin_fortune_grants_comfort_hope/

Translation by Christopher Hutchinson.

Introduction to the Text

The first printed songbook with songs primarily in German was printed in July 1512 by the Augsburg printer Erhard Oeglin (ca.1470-1520). The songbook consists of four partbooks – it is also the first German song collection with four voices throughout - and contains 49 songs with a mixture of spiritual and secular content; 43 of which are in German and 6 in Latin. Oeglin was an innovative printer, credited as one of the first printers to print musical notation with movable type and as one of the first printers of "Zeitungen" – news-sheets. Oeglin does not attribute any of the songs to particular composers but some of these songs do appear in other songbooks of this period where they are attributed to various composers active at the Imperial court, including Ludwig Senfl, Paul Hofhaimer and Heinrich Isaac. These songs are collectively known as tenor lieder, as the melody is usually carried by the tenor line. This was the prototypical song type in Germany at the turn of the sixteenth century and enjoyed particular prominence at the court of the Emperor Maximilian.

Introduction to the Source

Digitized copies of these partbooks, from the Bayerische StaatsBibliothek in Munich, are available online here.

Further Reading

Saunders, Steven. "Music in Early Modern Germany." *Early Modern German Literature 1350-1700*, edited by Max Reinhart, Rochester: Camden House, 2007.

Keyl, Stephen. "Tenorlied, Discantlied, Polyphonic lied: Voices and instruments in German secular polyphony of the Renaissance." *Early Music*, vol. 20, no. 3, 1992, pp. 434–445.



"Fortune grants me comfort and hope" | "Glück mir trost und hoffnug geit"

Gelück mir trost und hoffnug geit

Gelück mir trost und hoffnug geit / alain gen deiner
werden zucht / und mit mein gmüt so hoch erfreyt
/ meins hertzen all erhöchste frustt / glaub mir für-
war / in weybes schar / liebstu mir obin allen / alain
du bist / on argen list / meins hertzen wolgefallen.

Hyerumb mein trost und früntlichs pild / halt vesst
an mir an solchem ort / mit weis unnd perd erzayg
dich mild / dann ich gib glauben deinem wort / der-
gleich auch ich / will allzeit mich dein fleissen un-
verdrossen / doch ist das pest / lad nit frömd gesst
/ es wurden sunnst faul possen.

An mir hab auch kain zweifel nicht / dye lieb sol
sein verporgen / mein synn sein mir also gericht /
und stee gen dir in sorgen / so ich gedenck / vil
güter schwenck / gib ich mich dir in stillen / glaub
mir fürwar / für ander zwar / mit meinem freyen wil-
len.

Fortune grants me comfort and hope

Fortune grants me comfort and hope of alone being granted your
worthy favor and it brings cheer to my senses; you are the highest
fruit of my heart. Believe me, I truly love you above all others in the
ranks of women; you are, without any deceit, the joy of my heart.

For that reason, you, my comfort and beloved sight, stay here with
me in this place, show yourself to be generous in manner and deed,
so I can trust your word. As I too will always and untiringly care
for you; but it's best if you don't have strangers round, otherwise it
might lead to sordid antics.

Don't doubt me either, our love will be hidden, I am minded like this
and I care deeply for you. And so I can think of many good games,
I'll give myself to you in secret; beleive me, truly, once again, truly,
I'll do it of my own free will.