

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/33233> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation

Author: Roelvink, Véronique

Title: Gheerkin de Hondt : a singer-composer in the sixteenth-century Low Countries

Issue Date: 2015-06-24

Acknowledgements

When it takes someone twenty years to write a Ph.D. thesis, in conjunction with a (fulltime) job outside the university, and involving an extensive and interdisciplinary subject, many people become part of the process. It would be impossible to mention them all in this place, but some of them deserve a special thank you.

First of all the two supervisors of this work: Wim Blockmans and Bonnie Blackburn, who understood my challenge in writing this thesis as an external Ph.D. candidate and who had sympathy and patience for a pupil not always following the well-trodden paths. I would like to thank Bonnie Blackburn specifically for correcting and improving my English, a language that is not my mother tongue.

I have had the privilege to discuss all kinds of issues resulting from the subject of my thesis with colleagues in history and musicology all over the world. I am truly grateful to Monique Brummans, Geertrui Van Syngel, Jaap van Bentham, Jennifer Bloxam, Joep van Buchem, Nele Gabriëls, Louis Grijp, Leofranc Holford-Strevens, Jacobijn Kiel, the late Ike de Loos, Leo Peters, Keith Polk, Mariëtte Roelvink, Jan Sanders, Katrijne Schiltz, Anton Schuttelaars and Rob Wegman, who all made valuable contributions along the line.

Special mention is due to the staff members of the archives where I was so warmly welcomed time and again, especially in the Brabants Historisch Informatie Centrum in 's-Hertogenbosch, the archives of the Illustre Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Stadsarchief 's-Hertogenbosch, the Archief Sint-Jan in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Stadsarchief Brugge and the Openbaar Centrum voor Maatschappelijk Welzijn in Bruges.

Bringing alive Gheerkin's almost 500-year-old music is what it is all about. The enthusiasm and perseverance of Peter de Groot led to the recording of a CD by the Egidius Kwartet with Gheerkin's songs, motets and the main part of his *Missa Ceciliam cantate pii* in 2005. Working with Peter and the Kwartet and its surroundings has always been a great pleasure.

I would also like to thank my dear friends Annelies van Os, Josien Stehouwer and Marc Verbeek for sharing many other aspects of life too. The final, but most important, word of thanks is to my parents, who continued to support me in this long process, each in their own way and together in complementary ways.

Abbreviations

1535 ⁸	Ottaviano Scotto/Andrea Antico, <i>Il primo libro de le canzoni francese</i> , Venice 1535.
1536 ¹⁷	Ottaviano Scotto/Andrea Antico, <i>Il primo libro de le canzoni francese / Canzoni francese di messer Adriano</i> , Venice 1536.
1551 ¹⁸	Tielman Susato, <i>Het ierste musyck boexken mit vier partyen daer inne Begrepen zyn xxvij nieue amoreuse liedecken in onser neder duytscher talen, Gecomponiert by diversche componisten, zeer lustich om singen en spelen op alle musicale Instrumenten</i> , Antwerpen 1551.
1552 ¹⁵	Pierre Phalèse, <i>Cincquiesme livre des chansons a quatre parties, nouvellement composez & mises en Musicque, convenables tant aux instrumentz comme à la voix</i> , Louvain 1552.
1553 ²⁴ (reprint 1556 ¹³)	Pierre Phalèse, <i>Premier livre des chansons a cinq et six parties, nouvellement composez & mises en Musicque, convenables tant aux instruments comme à la voix</i> , Louvain 1553.
B	Bassus
BHIC	Brabants Historisch Informatie Centrum, 's-Hertogenbosch (former Rijksarchief in Noord-Brabant, 's-Hertogenbosch)
BHIC 1232	Brabants Historisch Informatie Centrum, 's-Hertogenbosch, Toegangsnummer 1232, Archief Illustré Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap in 's-Hertogenbosch, (1291) 1318 – 2005

Cambrai	BM 125-8	Cambrai, Médiathèque Municipale, Manuscripts 125-128 (<i>olim</i> 124)
CMM		Corpus Mensurabilis Musicae
Ct		Contratenor
GAD 435		Gemeentearchief Delft, Archiefnummer 435 (Delftse Parochiekerken)
GdańPAN 4003		Gdańsk (Poland), Polska Akademia Nauk Biblioteka Gdańska, MS 4003 (<i>olim</i> Mus. q. 20)
ILVB		Illustre Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap, 's-Hertogenbosch
Inv. no.		Inventory number (<i>inventarisnummer</i>)
Leiden 1442		Regionaal Archief Leiden, Kerken, nummer toegang 502, inventarisnummer 1442 (Boek E)
LU		Liber Usualis
MS / MSS		Manuscript / Manuscripts
OCMW-B		Openbaar Centrum voor Maatschappelijk Welzijn Brugge
QP		Quinta Pars
RAB		Rijksarchief Brugge
RAB 88		Rijksarchief Brugge, Inv. no. 88, archives of the church of Sint-Jacob
RISM		<i>Répertoire International des Sources Musicales</i>
S		Superius
SAB		Stadsarchief Brugge

SAB, OA	Stadsarchief Brugge, Oud Archief
SAHt	Stadsarchief 's-Hertogenbosch
SAHt, ASJ	Stadsarchief 's-Hertogenbosch, Archief Sint-Jan tot 1629
SAHt, ASJ, Charters	Stadsarchief 's-Hertogenbosch, Archief Sint-Jan, Collectie Charters
SAHt, OSA	Stadsarchief 's-Hertogenbosch, Oud Stads Archief
St	Saint
's-HerAB	<p>'s-Hertogenbosch, Archief van de Illustre Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap</p> <p>The archives are kept in the BHIC, except for the polyphonic choirbooks, which are in the Zwanenbroedershuis, Hinthamerstraat 94, 5211 MS 's-Hertogenbosch, Netherlands.</p> <p>For the inventory of the archives see: http://www.bhic.nl (BHIC 1232).</p>
T	Tenor

Notes on names/numbers, glossary, dating style, currencies

Names/numbers

All general names are given in their modern equivalent in the original language, unless they are specific names of persons, in which case they are spelled according to their most frequent appearance. For example: *Sint Jacop* has been rewritten as *Sint-Jacob*, but *Pierkin* or *Pierken* has not been replaced by *Pierre*. If there are many variants in names, they are given in a note. Names of towns that have an English equivalent are written in English (for example: Bruges, Brussels, Ghent, The Hague, but 's-Hertogenbosch). Roman numerals are not replaced by Arabic ones.

Glossary

For some Middle Dutch and current Dutch words it is not possible or even preferable to translate them into English; these have been italicised. Sometimes both Middle Dutch and the modern English translation are used in the same text.

basconter	bass singer
bastonnier	verger ('rod carrier')
beierman	man playing bells rhythmically, without the activation by a keyboard, therefore by using hammers or clappers directly on the bells or indirectly through strings attached to them
belfort	belfry
bonenfant / bonifanten	schoolboys helping or singing chant during liturgy in (chapter) churches; sometimes also in the meaning of choirboys: boys singing polyphony
bovensanck	highest/high voice

Bruederscap vanden Heyligen	
Eerwerdigen Sacramente	Confraternity of the Holy Sacrament
cantor	originally one of the canons of a chapter church in charge of singing the seven canonical hours (Divine Office); if functioning in addition to the <i>zangmeester</i> , then more ceremonial; sometimes used as equivalent for <i>zangmeester</i>
capelaen	chaplain
choralen	choirboys capable of singing polyphony
Commuun	college of the seven canonical hours, also called <i>Communitas chori</i> or <i>Zeven-getijdencollege</i>
contratenor	high male voice, probably alto
coraelmeester	see: <i>zangmeester</i>
Dis (also: Armendis)	poor relief
discant	equivalent of polyphony
discanters	singer of polyphonic music
exequie	memorial service
hoogconter / hoogtenor	high male voice, probably alto
Illustre Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap	Confraternity of Our Illustrious Lady
intoneerde	precentor
heer (or Her)	priest (Latin: Dominus)
heer	Lord (ruler)
kovel	hood
koster	sexton
Lof	sung liturgical service in honour of for example the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Cross, the Holy Sacrament or a Saint
magister cantus	see: <i>zangmeester</i>
maître de chant	see: <i>zangmeester</i>
meester	Master (French: Maître), title of a university degree
musycke	literally: music, meaning polyphony
Nieuwe Kerk	'New Church'
ommeganck	procession
Onze Lieve Vrouw	Our Lady

orgelblaser	organ/bellows blower (giving the organ wind)
Oude Kerk	'Old Church'
proost	provost
provisoer/provisor	agent
Sacramentsbroederschap	Confraternity of the Holy Sacrament
sancmeester/sangmeester	see: zangmeester
simpelen sanck	equivalent of Gregorian chant
Sint-Donaas	St Donatian
Sint-Jacob	St James
Sint-Jan	St John
Sint-Salvator	St Saviour
Sint-Walburga	St Walpurga
stadspijper	city trumpeter
succentor	see: zangmeester
tabbert	tabard, gown
tafeldrager	scribe in a church who among other things keeps the attendance lists of singers
zangmeester	choirmaster (as in director of the choir of singers); not to be confused with the government of a <i>zeven-getijdencollege</i> , sometimes also called <i>sancmeesteren</i> (the <i>zangmeester</i> then mostly had a different name, like <i>coraelmeester</i> , <i>succentor</i> , <i>magister cantus</i>)
zeven-getijdencollege	group of men singing the seven canonical hours (Divine Office), also called <i>Commuun</i>

Dating style¹

In general all medieval styles (Easter style, Christmas style, Brabant style) have been modernised to the new style (n.s.) if known which style was meant (otherwise a note is given).

¹ Based on: Grotfend 1991¹³; Van den Bichelaer 1998, pp. 230-232; Verhoeven 1993a, p. 47.

A split financial year (for example from the feast of St John to the feast of St John a year later) is written as 1539/40. A period of two years is written as 1539-1540.

Currencies²

Between 1520 and 1550, several local monetary units were used in Delft, Bruges and 's-Hertogenbosch, like the Carolusgulden, the Flemish groat and pound and the pound of Holland. The rates of exchange were fixed between 1496 and 1548. Since 1521, the *Carolusgulden* (consisting of twenty *stuivers*) was the official prevailing money of account in the Low Countries. For the purpose of comparing the remuneration Gheerkin received (Chapter 9), the amounts of money have been converted to the *Carolusgulden* and the *stuiver*. Below, a survey is given of the monetary units found in documents in Delft, Bruges and 's-Hertogenbosch that have been used for this book, as well as a survey of the different exchange rates.

Delft (1520-1532)

pond Hollands, Rijnse gulden, Carolusgulden, schelling, Vlaamse groot, stuiver, denarius, patard (= French for stuiver)

Bruges (1530-1540)

Accounts church fabric Sint-Jacobs: pond, schelling, groot, denarius (Vlaams)
Accounts Commun Sint-Jacobs: pond Parisis, schelling Parisis, Vlaamse groot
Accounts Dis Sint-Jacobs: pond Parisis of 20 Vlaamse groot
Accounts city: pond, schelling, denarius (Vlaams)

's-Hertogenbosch (1520-1550)

Carolusgulden, gulden, stuiver, oord, denarius, pond payement

1 Carolusgulden (also called Rijnse gulden) equals

- 20 stuivers (French: patards) = 40 denarii = 80 oord
- 3 1/3 schelling Vlaams = 1/6 pond groot Vlaams = 40 groten Vlaams = 960 Vlaamse mijten
- 2 pond Parisis
- 1 1/3 pond Hollands = 320 penningen Hollands

² Based on: Van Beek 1986-2002; Munro 1974; Enno van Gelder 2002.

1 pond Vlaams (also called 1 pond groot) equals

- 20 schellingen Vlaams = 240 groten Vlaams
- 6 Carolusgulden
- 12 pond Parisis
- 8 pond Hollands

1 pond Parisis equals

- 1/2 gulden = 10 stuivers
- 1/12 pond Vlaams = 1 2/3 schellingen Vlaams = 20 groten Vlaams

1 pond Hollands equals

- 3/4 gulden = 15 stuivers = 240 penningen Hollands
- 1/8 pond Vlaams = 30 groten Vlaams

1 pond payement equals

- 7 stuivers