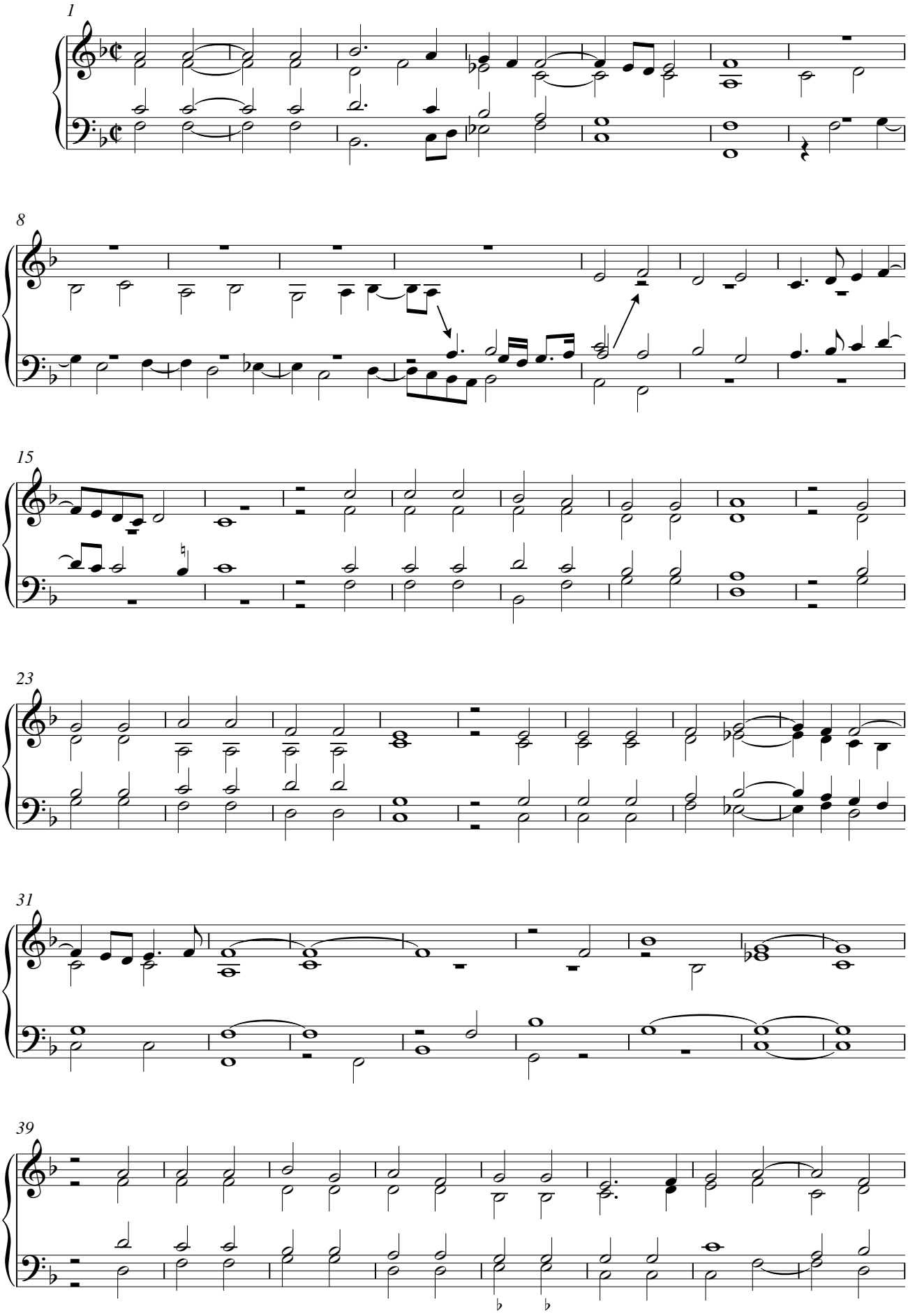
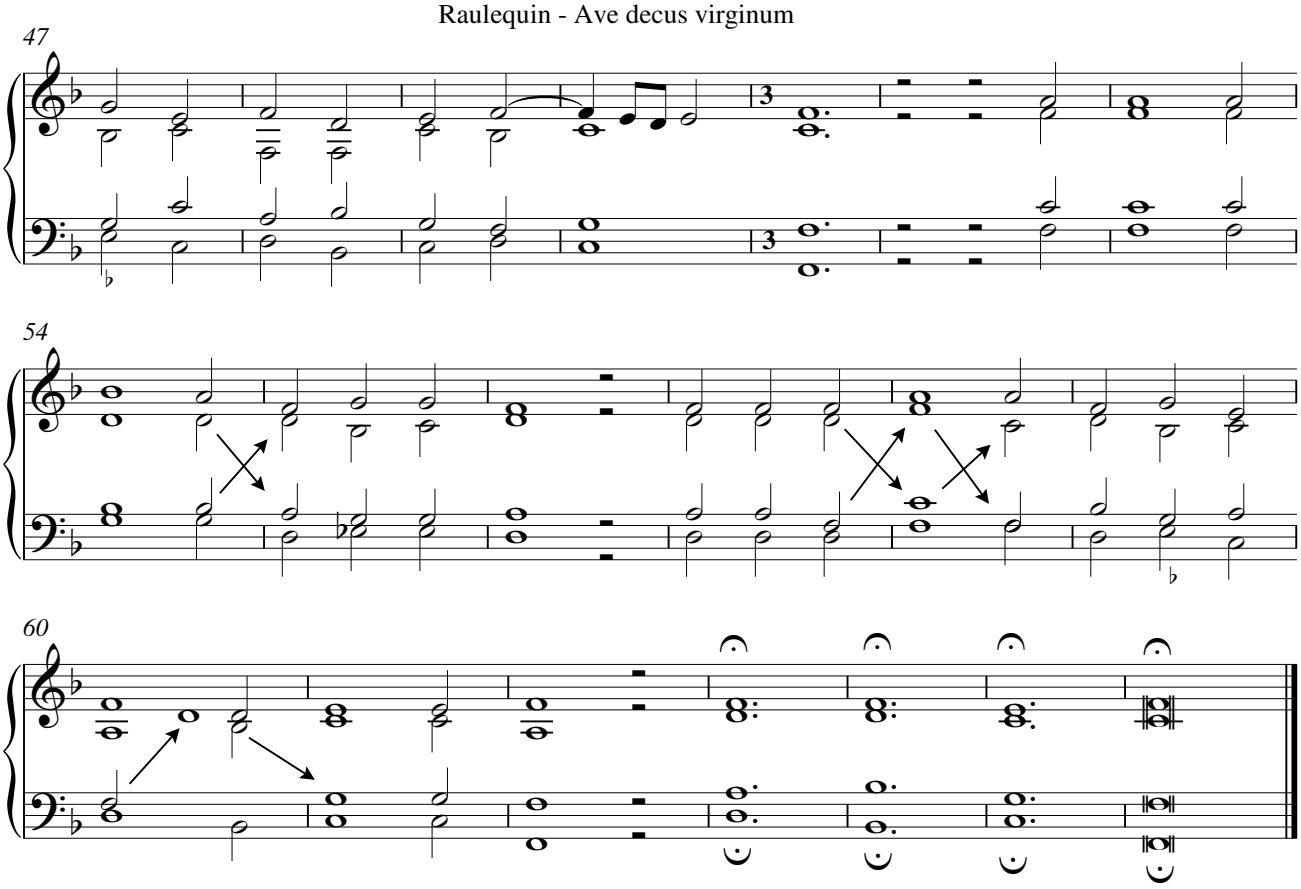
Ave decus virginum

I greet you, glory of virgins

Raulequin de Mol (ca 1500)




47
3
3

54

60

Critical notes to Ave decus virginum by Raulequin de Mol

The edition has been made after the online published manuscript Leipzig Universitätsbibliothek 1694, according to DIAMM dating 1490- 1504, fo 161 v-162, http://www.manuscripta-mediaevalia.de/?xdbdtdn!%22obj%2090680197,T%22&dmode=doc#|home
The ms. has been published previously by R. Gerber, Der Mensuralkodex des Nikolaus Apel, Teil II, in the series Erbe Deutscher Musik, nr 33, Kassel/Basel 1960.

The composer's name should no doubt be read as Raulequin, the French representation of de diminutive form Roelkin, from Roelof, Rudolph or Roland, and not as the nonsens name Ranlequin. His origin from Mol is the only known detail of his life. Mol is a place in Brabant, now situated in the province Antwerpen in Belgium. He cannot be the same as the Roelkin in the manuscript in Segovia cathedral, of whom I edited four pieces. This Roelkin originated from the northern part of the Netherlands, as suggested by the North-Eastern Middle Dutch words in the titles of two of his songs. He might be Rudolphus Agricola, Baflo (now Dutch province Groningen) 1433/34- Heidelberg 1485. According to David Fallows in the New Grove online, s.v. Raulin, Raulequin is also not the same as the Raulin of whom three songs are known in a Florentine manuscript, and which I edited too. For the details I refer to the critical comment in my edition of Roelkin's Et trop penser.
For stylistical reasons and for the lack of a common manuscript tradition I think that there were three different composers with similar names in this period.

The original clefs are C1, C3, C4 and F4.
The notes in the ms. contains many corrections. Gerber made some more corrections or errors. I applied the following corrections.
Altus bar 34: ms: brevis rest, correction to two breves rest (Gerber lengthened the brevis c' in bar 37 to a longa); this correction eliminates 3 parallel fifths.
Bassus 48-49: the ligature should result in 2 semibreves + 1 brevis, corrected to 3 semibreves (with Gerber).
Altus bar 45 and Cantus bar 54: Gerber's changes (or errors) are not necessary.

I verified Gerber's text with the ms. text, and corrected two reading errors, Raulequin and perpes. Besides I positioned the text in a slightly different way.

In the phrase ey(a) Dei in bars 33-36 the word Dei is evidently positioned in the manuscript under the notes where I put it.

Text and translation:
Ave decus virginum,
nobis praesens solemnitas assit perpes iocunditas,
tua namque conceptio summa est gratulatio.
Ey(a) Dei sacrarium templumque dignissimum,
impetra pacis presidium apud tuum unigenitum,
fac semper eundem nobis propitium, o Maria.

I greet you, glory of virgins,
the ceremony present to us be a perpetual joy,
for your conception is the highest congratulation,
up then, God's most dignified shrine and temple,
obtain the protection of peace from your only-begotten son,
always make the same grace for us, o Mary.

Arnold den Teuling, Assen, April 2015