

Osculetur me/Nigra sum

Transposed down a fourth.

Mathieu Gascongne

Music score for four voices (A, T1, T2, B) in common time, key signature of one flat. The vocal parts are as follows:

- Voice A:** Starts with a half note on G4, followed by a rest. Then a dotted half note, a quarter note, another quarter note, and a eighth-note group (two eighth notes followed by a sixteenth note). The lyrics are "Os - cu - le - tur me" followed by a long note and "os - cu -".
- Voice T1:** Starts with a half note on G3, followed by a quarter note, another quarter note, and a eighth-note group. The lyrics are "Os - cu - le - tur me" followed by "os - cu - lo o -".
- Voice T2:** Starts with a half note on G3, followed by a rest.
- Voice B:** Starts with a half note on G2, followed by a rest.

7

A lo o - - ris su - i, os - cu - lo o - ris su -

T1 - ris su - i, os - cu - lo o - - ris su - i,

T2 - - - - Os - cu - le - tur me

B - - - Os - cu - le - tur me os - cu -

2

19

A u - be - ra tu - - a vi - -

T1 - a me - li - o - ra sunt u - be - ra tu - a vi - no.

T2 - qui - a me - li - o - ra sunt u - be -

B qui - a me - li - o - ra sunt u - be - ra tu - a vi - -

25

A no.

T1 - Fra - gran - ti - a un - guen - tis,

T2 ra tu - a vi - - no. Fra - gran - ti - a un - (sic)

B - - no. Fra - gran - ti - a

30

A Fra - gran - ti - a un - gue - tis op - ti -

T1 - fra - gran - ti - a un - guen - tis op -

T2 guen - tis, un - guen - tis op - ti - mis;

B un - guen - (tis, un - guen - tis) op - ti -

41

A ef - fu - sum no - men tu - um; i - de - o

T1 tu - - - - um, no-men tu - -

T2 o - le - um ef - fu - sum no - men tu - - um;

B - um, no - men tu - um; i - de - o

52

A di - le - xe - runt te, di - le - xe - runt te. Tra -

T1 - - runt te, di - le - xe - runt te.

T2 do - le - scen-tu - lae di - le - xe-runt te.

B di - le - xe - runt te.

57

A he me post te, tra - he me post te, cur -

T1 - - Tra-he me post te, cur - re -

T2 - - Tra - he me post te, cur - re-mus

B - - Tra - he me post te, cur-re -

62

A re - mus in o - do - rem un - guen-to-rum tu - o -

T1 mus in o - do - rem -

T2 in o - do - rem un-guen-to - rum tu - o -

B - mus in o - do - rem un - guen-to-rum tu - o -

67

A rum, un - guen-to - rum tu - o - rum.
 T1 un - guen-to - rum tu - o - rum.
 T2 rum, un - guen-to - rum tu - o - rum.
 B rum, un - guen - to - rum tu - o - rum. Ni - gra

73

A Ni - gra sum sed for-mo - sa, for - mo -
 T1 Ni - gra sum sed for - mo - sa, fi - li -
 T2 Ni - gra sum sed for - mo - sa,
 B sum sed for - mo - sa, sed for - mo - sa,

79

A sa, fi - li - a
 T1 a Je - ru - sa - lem, fi - li - a Je - ru - sa - lem,
 T2 fi - li - a Je - ru - sa - lem, fi -
 B fi - li - a Je - ru - sa - lem, fi - li - a Je -

84

A - fi - li - a Je - ru - sa - lem.

T1 : 8 fi - li - a Je - ru - sa - lem.

T2 : 8 - li - a Je - ru - sa - lem, (Je - ru - sa - lem.) No - li - te me

B : - ru - sa - lem. No - li - te me, no -

89

A - - - - -

T1 - - - - *qui - a de -*

T2 *con - si - de* - *ra - re* *quod* *fus* - *ca*

B li - te me con - si - de - ra - re *quod* fus-ca sim,

94

A qui-a de - co-lo-ra - vit me sol, qui - a de-co-lo - ra - vit

T1 co-lo-ra - vit me sol, qui - a de-co-lo -

T2 sim, qui - a de - co-lo-ra - vit me

B qui-a de - co-lo-ra -

100

A me sol. Po - su - e - runt me cu -

T1 - ra - vit me sol. Po - su - e - runt me

T2 sol. Po - su - e - runt me

B - vit me sol. Po - su - e - runt me

105

A sto - dem in vi - ne - is In -

T1 cu - sto - dem in vi - ne - is In - di - ca mi - hi,

T2 cu - sto - dem in vi - ne - is In - di - ca mi - hi, in -

B cu - sto - dem in vi - ne - is In - di - ca mi - hi,

111

A di - ca mi - hi, in - di - ca mi - hi, quem di - li -

T1 quem di - li - git a - ni - ma me - a, quem di - li -

T2 di - ca mi - hi, quem di - li - git a - ni - ma me -

B - quem di - li - git

130

A u - bi cu - - bes in me - ri - di -

T1 cu - - bes in me - ri - di -

T2 ri - di - ae, in me - ri - di -

B in me - ri - - - di -

145

A so - da - li - um tu - o - rum.

T1 so - da - li - um tu - o - rum.

T2 - o - rum, so - da - li - um tu - o - rum.

B 0 - rum, so - da - li - um tu - o - rum.

Gascongne – Osculetur me - notes

This four-part motet is found in a set of partbooks from Petrus Alamire's workshop, made between 1527 and 1534. The partbooks are available online at
[https://imslp.org/wiki/40_Motets%2C_V-CVbav_MS_Pal.lat._1976-79_\(Alamire%2C_Petrus\)](https://imslp.org/wiki/40_Motets%2C_V-CVbav_MS_Pal.lat._1976-79_(Alamire%2C_Petrus))

The piece was transposed down a fourth.

Text underlay mostly seems indicative of on which musical phrase a group of words has to be sung; the precise placing of syllables however is left to the singers. Broadly speaking I followed the source, while here and there making my own choices. Text in parenthesis means there was no underlay in the source; italics mean my underlay is different from the source.

Below is the text, from the Song of Songs, as used in Gascongne's motet. In the 'Nigra sum' section the singular is used in 'filia Jersusalem', interpreting the phrase as coming from the Virgin Mary, speaking about herself.

1:1 Osculetur me osculo oris sui; quia meliora sunt ubera tua vino.	Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth, for your love is more delightful than wine.
1:2 Fragrantia unguentis optimis; oleum effusum nomen tuum; ideo adulescentulae dilexerunt te.	Pleasing is the fragrance of your perfumes; your name is like perfume poured out; no wonder the young women love you!
1:3a Trahe me post te, curremus in odorem unguentorum tuorum.	Draw me along with you, and let us fly in the scent of your perfume.
1:4a Nigra sum sed formosa, filia Jerusalem.	Dark am I, yet lovely, daughter of Jerusalem.
1:5a Nolite me considerare quod fusca sim, quia decoloravit me sol.	Do not think that I am dark, for the sun has changed my colour.
1:5c Posuerunt me custodem in vineis.	They made me keeper of the vineyards.
6 Indica mihi, quem diligit anima mea, ubi pascas, ubi cubes in meridie, ne vagari incipiam post greges sodalium tuorum.	Tell me, you whom I love, where you graze your flock and where you rest at midday, lest I begin to wander after the flocks of your companions.

Bert Schreuder