Music and Liturgy at the Beguinage of Amsterdam around 1600

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Contents Nijmegen cod. 402

- 1. Four liturgical prints with handwritten gothic notation (1568 to 1609, Belgium)
- 2. Funeral rites from the diocese of Mechelen (1589), print with handwritten square notation
- 3. Two chant-registers connecting the private songbooks to the liturgy.

Colophon: voor die begyntgens opt ronde begynhof tot Amsterdam

- 4. Cantuale containing
 - -Plainchant, 1-2 voices
 - -Latin religious songs, 1-3 voices
 - -Dutch religious songs, 1-2 voices in various music notations



The Amsterdam court beguinage

• 1578: the only catholic institution in Amsterdam left after the Reformation

• **1607:** the beguinage church became Presbyterian

• 1671: a new chapel is built

• 1578-1671: house church era: beguines celebrated in houses of the beguinage

=> Nijmegen cod. 402: a liturgical codex for the house church era



Main sources

- Nijmegen, UB, cod. 402
- two private songbooks with additions, Louvain 1561

Research Plan

Musicological: Codicological, palaeographical and notational analysis of the sources

Transcription of polyphonic chant and songs and monophonic songs

Historical: The function of the books in the liturgy of the beguines

Influence of the house church situation on the beguine liturgy