

Test 2 Answers

Lecture

countertenor a man who specializes in singing with his falsetto voice

consort a group of differently pitched instruments of the same family; i.e., a “choir” of some instrument

organum a Medieval piece using an old plainchant tune (the “cantus firmus”) as a bass line, and adding a new melody on top

What were the five parts of the Mass Ordinary? Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, and Agnus dei

The Agincourt Carol was written to celebrate an English victory over France in 1415

Which instrument was the ancestor of the oboe? shawm

Many troubadour songs are about fin’ amors, or courtly love.

The notation symbols used in plainchant (sometimes for multiple notes) are called neumes

What is one difference between a motet and a madrigal? motets are religious, in Latin, and use lots of imitation; madrigals are secular, in the vernacular, and use lots of word-painting

Text

humanism a way of thinking in the 16th century that focused on human issues and the individual

vernacular the common language spoken by the people

What was an example of word-painting from the text? using an unexpected harsh dissonance for the word “death,” or an ascending line for the words “heaven” or “stars”

“Tradition held that Pope Gregory had received the melodies of [plainchant] directly from the Holy Spirit in the form of” what animal? a dove

Machaut’s music is usually classed as being part of the *ars nova*; what does that mean? “new art,” the complex style of polyphony in 14th-c. France

What was one reason given for people to spend their lives in a monastery? parents might put their children in if they had no land holdings for a son, or money for a daughter’s dowry; or a widow who didn’t want to remarry, or a young woman who wanted an education, might join voluntarily

What was generally the difference in approach to church music between Catholics and Protestants?

Protestants preferred simpler music sung by the congregation in the vernacular, while Catholics tended to prefer complex music in Latin sung by professional choirs

What were the four subjects in the Quadrivium? music, math, geometry, and astronomy

What was one of the medieval “literary landmarks” mentioned? The *Chanson de Roland* (c. 1100, France), Dante’s *Divine Comedy* (1307, Italy), Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales* (1386, England)