

CORPVS SCRIPTORVM DE MVSICA

17

JOHANNIS DE MVRIS

NOTITIA ARTIS MVSICÆ

et

COMPENDIVM MVSICÆ PRACTICÆ

PETRVS DE SANCTO DIONYSIO

TRACTATVS DE MVSICA

Edidit

VLRICH MICHELS



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MUSICOLOGY

1972

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Petrus de Sancto Dionysio

Edited by  
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DIRECTOR

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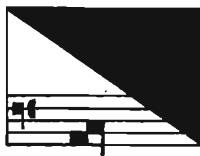
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## FOREWORD

The present edition is the result of an earlier work investigating the musical treatises of Johannes de Muris, to be consulted where the present work does not go into all details<sup>1</sup>. The *Notitia artis musicae* and the *Compendium musicae* are the earliest of the Muris treatises. Muris wrote his *Notitia* in the year 1321 in Paris, and with this work helped to clarify and defend the tenets of the Ars Nova, primarily in the role of mathematician and music lover. The treatise was first published by Gerbert from ms S in the third volume of his *Scriptores*. Unfortunately, it was wrongly dated 1319 by Coussemaker, who made use of a doubtful interpolation in ms P<sub>2</sub>, f. 60<sup>b</sup><sup>2</sup>. It has also become known as the “Ars novae musicae” because of an *explicit* in the same ms P<sub>2</sub>, f. 61<sup>a</sup><sup>3</sup>. The date 1321, however, and the title *Notitia artis musicae* are undoubtedly the correct ones, for Muris himself gives them in the concluding remarks to his first mathematical treatise, written in the same year 1321<sup>4</sup>.

The *Notitia* comprises two books: a *Musica theorica* and a *Musica practica*. The latter was very soon compressed into a short *Compendium*, which Gerbert published from mss S and S<sub>R</sub> as „Quaestiones super partes musicae” (GS III), and Coussemaker from ms G as „De diffinitionibus accidentium musicae” (CS III). The title *Compendium*, however, comes from ms R, which explains in some detail by way of a conclusion the relationship existing between the *Compendium* and the second book of the *Notitia*. It also mentions Muris as the author<sup>5</sup>. Considering this relationship, it seems only natural to add the words *musicae practicae* to the (original?) title *Compendium*.

Neither of the Muris treatises shows any knowledge of the innovations of Philippe de Vitry’s *Ars nova*, although they were written at about the same time and presumably in the same vicinity. They therefore date from slightly before Vitry’s *Ars nova* in all probability. Moreover, it is worth mentioning that Jacobus of Liège wrote the seventh book of his *Speculum musicae* between June 1323 and 1324/25<sup>6</sup>, and in it he mentions both Vitry’s *Ars nova* and the *Compendium* of de Muris. Thus, Vitry’s treatise

<sup>1</sup> U. Michels, *Die Musiktraktate des Johannes de Muris. Beiblatt zum Archiv für Musikwissenschaft*, Vol. 8, Wiesbaden 1970.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. p. 84.

<sup>3</sup> Cf. p. 107.

<sup>4</sup> Cf. Michels, l.c., p. 2ff.

<sup>5</sup> R, f. 5 (cf. p. 145).

<sup>6</sup> Cf. Michels, l.c. p. 50ff.

NOTITIA ARTIS  
MUSICAЕ

## NOTITIA ARTIS MUSICAE

### CODICES:

**C** Cambridge, Trinity College Library R.14.26,  
XV° s., cod. membr. et pap., 8°, 15 × 12cm, 150 fol., codex iste  
veresimile in Britannia exaratus est, cf. f. 106'.

- f. 1-106 Non agunt de musica.
- f. 106' Annotatio anonyma „Henricus dei gratia rex Anglie et Francie et dominus Hibernie dictus «...» multum precipimus”; in margine: „Johannes Auleby.”
- f. 107-118' Johannes de Muris, Notitia artis musicae. In margine superiori legitur: „Assit principio sancta maria meo.”  
Inc. „Princeps philosophorum Aristoteles ait...”  
Expl. „... et omnia voluntarie segregabit. finis.  
Nomen factoris signat deca signa doloris/munda nec est murum que de cognomine firmum./Explicit sufficientia musice organice edita a Magistro Johanne de Muris musico sapientissimo experto. Amen.”
- f. 119 Quatuor exempla cantus perfecti atque imperfecti cum notis nigris: „Cantus perfectus perfectus sic figuratur... imperfectus imperfectus sic figuratur.”
- f. 119-119' Descriptio consonantiarum cum notis musicis: „Tonus sic discantatur... diapente sic discantatur tam ascendendo quam descendendo.” Sequitur annotatio anonyma: „Concordantias scire volentibus in primis notandum est, quod prime note principaliter concordant... 12<sup>a</sup> diapason cum diapente, 15<sup>a</sup> vocis bis diapason.”
- f. 120-120' Item descriptio consonantiarum cum notis musicis: „Ditonus est consonantia constans ex duobus tonis plenis et 3 notis... Bis diapason est consonantia constans ex 10 tonis et 4 semitonis ut patet.”
- f. 120'-121 Annotatio anonyma de consonantiis.  
Inc. „Sex sunt consonantie, quibus omnis cantus...”  
Expl. „... voces sunt consimiles.”
- f. 121'-150' Non agunt de musica.

# <sup>1</sup>«NOTITIA ARTIS MUSICAЕ»

## «PROLOGUS»

<sup>2</sup>Princeps philosophorum Aristoteles ait in prooemio *Metaphysicae* sua: Omnino scientis signum est posse docere. <sup>3</sup>In qualibet autem arte theorici docere possunt, practici vero non. Experti enim ipsum quia sciunt, sed propter quid nesciunt. Non autem scientia faciunt, quae faciunt ut ignis.

C 107 – M 1 – O<sub>1</sub> 100a – O<sub>2</sub> 115a – P<sub>1</sub> 6'  
 P<sub>2</sub> 59'a – S 63' – W 102' – GS 312a

<sup>1</sup>Assit principio sancta maria meo *in marg superiori* C Egregii trivialis ac mathematicarum artium doctoris parisiensis Johannis de Muris theorica musicae Parisius aedita. Theorica musicae practicam antecellit. Capitulum primum M Prohemium totius artis musicae «...»P<sub>2</sub> Incipit ars discantus data a magistro Johanne de Muris abbreviando *hunc titulum del alia manus* S Incipit tractatus fratris Petri de Sancto Dionysio *vide p. 147 W*

<sup>2</sup>philosoforum Aristotiles M dicit *pro* ait P<sub>2</sub> principio *pro* prooemio C O<sub>2</sub> prohemio M O<sub>1</sub> P<sub>1</sub> P<sub>2</sub> S sua metaphysicae M P<sub>2</sub> omnino scien «...» signum *exp et pergit* omnino scientis signum O<sub>1</sub>

<sup>3</sup>autem *pro* vero O<sub>1</sub> ipsum om C O<sub>2</sub> P<sub>1</sub> sciunt quae *pro* quia sciunt C sciunt quia *pro* quia sciunt O<sub>2</sub> Non autem... *usque ad tabulam* (II 12) om P<sub>1</sub> scientiam *pro* scientia C O<sub>2</sub> quid faciunt *pro* quae faciunt O<sub>1</sub> quae dicunt *pro* quae faciunt S

<sup>4</sup> Aristoteles, *Metaphysica* I, 1:  
 „Hominibus autem scientia et ars per experientiam accidit. (6) Experientia quidem enim artem fecit, sicut ait Polus recte dicens, sed inexperience casum. Fit autem ars, cum ex multis experimento intellectis una fit universalis acceptio de similibus...“

Ad actum quidem igitur experientia quidem nihil ab arte differre videtur. Sed expertos magis proficere videmus sine experientia rationem habentibus. Causa autem est, quod experientia quidem singularium cognitio est, ars vero universalium. Actus autem et omnes generationes circa singulare sunt. Non enim hominem medicans sanat nisi secundum accidentis, sed aut Platonem aut Socratem aut aliquem sic dictorum, cui esse hominem accidit. Si igitur sine experientia aliquis rationem habeat et universale quidem cognoscat, in hoc autem singulare ignoret, multo-tiens quidem curatione peccabit. Singulare namque magis curabile est. (4) Sed tamen scire et obviare magis arte quam experientia esse arbitramur et artifices expertis sapientiores esse opinamus, tamquam magis sit scire sapientiam omnia sequentem. Hoc autem est, quod hi quidem causam sciunt, illi vero non. (3) Experti enim ipsum sciunt quia, sed propter quid nesciunt.

Hi autem propter quid et causam cognoscunt. Unde architectonicas circa quolibet nobiliores et magis manu-artificibus scire denominamus et sapientiores, quia factorum causas sciunt, illos vero, sicut quaedam inanimateorum faciunt quidem, sed quae faciunt, incognita faciunt, ut cum ignis exurit. Inanimata igitur quidem natura quadam horum unumquodque faciunt, sed manu-artifices per consuetudinem, tamquam non secundum practicos esse sapientiores sint, sed secundum quod rationem habent et causas cognoscunt. (2) Et omnino scientis signum est posse docere, (5) et ob hoc artem magis experientia scientiam esse concipimus. Possunt enim hi, hi

**COMPENDIUM MUSICAE  
PRACTICAE**

## COMPENDIUM MUSICAЕ PRACTICAE

### CODICES:

- G** Gent, Universiteitsbibliotheek 70 (71).  
Descriptionem vide p. 14ss.
- P** Paris, BN, f.lat. 14741.  
Descriptionem vide p. 23ss.
- R** Rom, Bibl. Vat., Regin.lat. 1146,  
XIV° s., cod. membr., 4°, 20 × 15 cm, 73 fol.  
Descriptionem codicis vide: J. Smits van Waesberghe, Guidonis  
Aretini Micrologus, CSM 4, Rom 1955, p. 60ss.; G. Reaney, in:  
MD XVIII, 1964, p. 17.  
Johannes de Muris invenitur hiis partibus codicis:
- f. 2-5     Johannes de Muris, Compendium musicae practicae.  
Inc. „Compendium Johannis de Muris. «P»artes prolationis quot  
sunt? Quinque ...”  
Expl. „... et si qua sint similia. Explicit compendium tractatus  
Magistri Johannis de Muris.”  
Sequitur annotatio scriptoris, in margine “capitulum octavum”  
designata: „Sciatur autem prenominatus magister quemdam  
tractatum artis musicæ compilavit cuius libellus iste ...” Finitur  
f.5: „... Minima non potest imperfecti ut sic .”
- f.35-44'    Johannes de Muris, Libellus cantus mensurabilis (CS III 46-58,  
cum quibusdam variationibus).  
Inc. „Johannis de Muris. «Q»uilibet in arte practica mensurabilis  
cantus ...”  
Expl. „... mensurabilis cantus anelantibus introduci.”
- S** St.Paul, Archiv des Benediktinerstiftes 264/4.  
Descriptionem vide p. 31ss.
- S<sub>R</sub>** St. Paul, Archiv des Benediktinerstiftes 135/1, = fragmentum (f.17-  
24) codicis:  
Rom, Bibl.Vat., Barberini lat. 307,  
XV° s. (c.1400-1432), cod. membr., 4°, 27 × 21 cm, olim 62 folia, sed  
desunt f.17-24 (= S<sub>R</sub>) et f.41-61; codex igitur nunc consistit 33 foliis  
novis numeris ordinatis. Descriptionem vide: G. Reaney, A. Gilles,  
J. Maillard, Philippi de Vitriaco Ars nova, CSM 8, Rom 1964, p.10s.  
In primo folio huius codicis invenitur index scriptus a manu posteriori  
(XVIII° s.?):

<sup>5</sup>Voluntaria quae est? Quae prolixo vel velociter formatur secundum libitum proferentis.

<sup>6</sup>Artificialis quae est? Quae prolata per tria dividitur aequalia, quorum quodlibet unica divisione similiter dividatur; <sup>7</sup>aliter: quae divisibilis est per novem aequalia minima, dum profertur.

<sup>8</sup>Brevior quae est? Quae rectae brevis duas partes apprehendit.

<sup>9</sup>In breviori minimae quot sunt? Sex.

Quae? Quarum medietas addita super totum perficit rectam brevem.

<sup>3</sup>pro tria S        aequales pro aequalia S<sub>R</sub>        aequalia dividitur P  
unica om P        simili pro similiter G R        dividatur similiter S  
quodlibet dividitur similiter unica divisionis S<sub>R</sub>        dividitur alias dividatur R

<sup>7</sup>aliter sic R        dissimilis pro divisibilis G        divisibilis *suprascri* est  
S        aequales minimas pro aequalia minima S<sub>R</sub>        minima om P

<sup>8</sup>Brevior alia manu (*XVI<sup>o</sup> s. ?*) in marg esta opinio es falsa dela divition S<sub>R</sub>  
Brevia pro Brevior G        qui pro quae R        Quae apprehendit duas  
partes perfecti temporis pro Quae ... comprehendit S<sub>R</sub>        Quae om G R S  
rectae om G R S S<sub>R</sub>        brevis om S<sub>R</sub>        brevis quae duas S  
partes temporis R S        apprehendens pro apprehendit G R S        comprehen-  
dit pro apprehendit P

<sup>9</sup>In om G        minima pro minimae G R S        quot sunt minimae S<sub>R</sub>  
Quorum pro Quarum G R S        perficitur pro perficit G