

# Hayne van Ghizeghem

*De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse a 3*

Edition and comments by

Peter Woetmann Christoffersen

March 2009, revised May 2017

<http://chansonniers.pwch.dk/CH/CH005.html>

---

This edition is extracted from the online project *The Copenhagen Chansonnier and the 'Loire Valley' chansonniers*, which consists of linked html-files and a great number of single PDF editions. It can be accessed at <http://chansonniers.pwch.dk/>.

Each html-file about a song contains lists of sources, and edition and translation of the poetic texts, discussion of the main sources and comments on text and music. Separate files hold lists of contents and descriptions of the sources. Other files contain papers and notes on related topics. The online edition offers many cross references and links to online facsimile editions. These links had to be simplified in the present edition.

Each version of a song is regarded as a valid performance by a scribe/musician, and therefore they are published separately. In most cases there will be no attempts to imagine the intentions of the composer or to reconstruct exactly what the composer had written when the music left his pen. Rather the aim is to interpret the written music in largely the same way as 15th century performers may have read it. Many details, which in one source are different from other sources, must be accepted by the editor as valid elements in a performance of the actual source. Sources marked by an asterisk \* are included in the edition.

## Sigla

### *The related 'Loire Valley' chansonniers*

Copenhagen	Copenhagen, The Royal Library, MS Thott 291 8° <a href="http://www.kb.dk/permalink/2006/manus/702/dan/0+recto/">http://www.kb.dk/permalink/2006/manus/702/dan/0+recto/</a>
Dijon	Dijon, Bibliothèque Municipale, Ms. 517 <a href="http://patrimoine.bm-dijon.fr/pleade/img-viewer/MS00517/viewer.html">http://patrimoine.bm-dijon.fr/pleade/img-viewer/MS00517/viewer.html</a>
Laborde	Washington D.C., Library of Congress, MS M2.1 L25 Case (Laborde Chansonnier) <a href="https://www.loc.gov/resource/ihas.200152631.0/?sp=1">https://www.loc.gov/resource/ihas.200152631.0/?sp=1</a>
Leuven	Leuven, Alamire Foundation, Manuscript without shelf number (Leuven Chansonnier) <a href="http://depot.lias.be/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE9381778">http://depot.lias.be/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE9381778</a>
Nivelle	Paris, Bibliothèque nationale, Rés. Vmc. ms. 57 (Chansonnier Nivelle de la Chaussée) <a href="http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b55007270r/f1.image">http://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b55007270r/f1.image</a>
Wolfenbüttel	Wolfenbüttel, Herzog August Bibliothek, Codex Guelf. 287 Extravag. <a href="http://digilib.hab.de/wdb.php?dir=mss/287-extrav">http://digilib.hab.de/wdb.php?dir=mss/287-extrav</a>

### *Other sources*

Bologna Q16	Bologna, Civico Museo Bibliografico Musicale, MS Q16
Bologna Q18	Bologna, Civico Museo Bibliografico Musicale, MS Q18
Cape 3.b.12	Cape Town, The South African Library, MS Grey 3.b.12
Florence 121	Firenze, Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Ms. Magl. xix.121
Florence 178	Firenze, Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, Ms. Magl. xix.178
Florence 2356	Firenze, Biblioteca Riccardiana, Ms. 2356
Florence 2794	Firenze, Biblioteca Riccardiana, Ms. 2794
London 31922	London, British Library, Add. MS 31922
Maastricht 169/1	Maastricht, Rijksarchief van Limburg, Ms.169/1
Montecassino 871	Montecassino, Biblioteca dell'Abbazia, Ms. 871
New Haven 91	New Haven, Yale University, Beineke Library, MS 91 (Mellon Chansonnier)
Paris 15123	Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, ms. f.fr. 15123 (Chansonnier Pixérécourt)
Paris 2973	Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, ms. Rothschild 2973 (Chansonnier Cordiforme)
Paris 676	Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale, Département de Musique, Rés. Vm7 676
Pavia 362	Pavia, Biblioteca Universitaria, Ms. Aldini 362
Perugia 431	Perugia, Biblioteca Comunale Augusta, Ms. 431 (G20)
Petrucci 1501	Petrucci, <i>Harmonice Musices Odhecaton A</i> , Venezia 1501
Rome 2856	Roma, Biblioteca Casanatense, Ms. 2856
Rome XIII.27	Roma, Città del Vaticano, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, Ms. Cappella Giulia, XIII.27
Sevilla 5-1-43	Sevilla, Biblioteca Capitular y Colombina, MS 5-1-43
Ulm 237	Ulm, Bibliothek des Münsters, Ms. 237a-d
Uppsala 76a	Uppsala, Universitetsbiblioteket, Musik i Handskrift 76a

### *Text sources*

Berlin 78.B.17	Berlin, Staatsliche Museen der Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Kupferstichkabinett, Ms. 78.B.17 (Chansonnier Rohan)
----------------	--

### *Literature*

Fallows 1999	David Fallows, <i>A Catalogue of Polyphonic Songs, 1415-1480</i> . Oxford 1999
Hayne 1977	Hayne van Ghizeghem (ed. B. Hudson), <i>Opera omnia</i> (Corpus mensurabilis musicae 74) 1977
Löpelmann 1923	M. Löpelmann (ed.), <i>Die Liederhandschrift des Cardinals de Rohan</i> (Gesellschaft für romanische Litteratur, Band 44) Göttingen 1923
Meconi 1994	Honey Meconi, 'Art-Song Reworkings: An Overview', <i>Journal of the Royal Musical Association</i> 119 (1994), pp. 1-42

*De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse* 3v · Hayne van Ghizeghem

*Appearance in the group of related chansonniers:*

- \*Copenhagen ff. 4v-5 »De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v
- \*Dijon ff. 14v-15 »De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v hayne
- \*Laborde ff. 62v-63 »De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v
- \*Leuven ff. 20v-21 »De touz biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v
- \*Wolfenbüttel ff. 52v-53 »De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v

*Other musical sources:*

- Bologna Q16 ff. 133v-134 »De tous biens pien« 3v
- Bologna Q18 f. 48 »[Without text]« 2v [4v] (Only C and added part)
- Cape 3.b.12 ff. 84v-85 »Com defecerunt ligna« 3v
- Florence 121 ff. 24v-25 »De tus bem plaine« 3v
- Florence 178 ff. 34v-35 »De tous biem playne« 3v hayne
- Florence 2356 ff. 26v-27 »De tout bien pleine« 3v
- Florence 2794 ff. 18v-19 »De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v
- London 31922 ff. 40v-41 »De tous bien plaine« 3v
- Maastricht 169/1 ff. 25-25v »De tous bin plajn est ma mestresse« 1v [3v] (Only S)
- Montecassino 871 p. 344 »[Without text]« 3v
- New Haven 91 ff. 42v-43 »De tous bien plaine est ma maistresse« 3v (C incompl.) Heyne
- Paris 15123 ff. 105v-106 »De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v
- Paris 2973 ff. 25v-26 »De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse« 3v
- Paris 676 ff. 42v-43 »De tous biens« 3v
- Pavia 362 ff. 34bisv-35 »De tous biens playne est ma maistresse« 3v Heyne
- Perugia 431 ff. 70v-71 »De tous biens plains est« 3v
- Petrucci 1501 ff. 22v-23 »De tous biens playne« 4v (A “Si placet”)
- Rome 2856 ff. 66v-67 »De tous biens plaine« 3v Haine
- Rome XIII.27 ff. 64v-65 »De to biens plena« 3v (with 2 extra substitute voices)
- Sevilla 5-1-43 f. 39 »De tous biens playne« 2v [3v] (Only T and C)
- Ulm 237 no. 21 »De tous bien plaine« 3v
- Uppsala 76a ff. 15v-16 »De tous biens plaine« 3v

*Reworkings, citations, intabulations and use of material*, see Fallows 1999, pp. 130.

Many compositions based on material from this chanson, see the lists in Hayne 1977, pp. xxxix-xli, and Meconi 1994, pp. 27-28.

*Text:* Rondeau quatrain, full text in Copenhagen, Dijon, Laborde, Leuven, Wolfenbüttel and Paris 2973 – also in Berlin 78.B.17, ff. 184-184v (no. 575), ed.: Löpelmann 1923, p. 358.

The poem according to Copenhagen, Dijon and Laborde:

De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse, chascun lui doit tribut d'onneur; car assouvye est en valeur (1) autant que jamais fut deesse. (2)	My mistress has such great merit that everyone owes her tribute of honour, for she is in virtue as perfect as ever was any goddess.
En la veant j'ay tel leesse (3) que c'est paradis en mon cuer:	When I see her, I feel such joy that there is paradise in my heart,
De tous biens <i>plaine est ma maistresse</i> , <i>chascun lui doit tribut d'onneur</i> .	[for] my mistress has such great merit that everyone owes her tribute of honour.
Je n'ay cure d'autre richesse si non d'estre son serviteur, (4) et pource qu'il n'est chois milleur (5) en mon mot porteray sans cesse:	I do not care about any other riches than to be her servant, and because there is no better choice I will always carry as my motto:
De tous biens <i>plaine est ma maistresse</i> , <i>chascun lui doit tribut d'onneur</i> ; <i>car assouvye est en valeur</i> <i>autant que jamais fut deesse</i> .	My mistress has such great merit that everyone owes her tribute of honour, for she is in virtue as perfect as ever was any goddess.

There are differences of spelling among the sources, but only Leuven and Wolfenbüttel have variants:

- 1) Wolfenbüttel, line 3, “car accomplie ...”
- 2) Wolfenbüttel, line 4, “autant qu'onceques maiz deesse”; one syllable short
- 3) Wolfenbüttel, line 5, “... voyant j'ay tel richesse”
- 4) Leuven, line 10, “... voustre serviteur”; one syllable too many
- 5) Wolfenbüttel, line 11, “et affin qu'ung chascun soyt seur”

#### *Evaluation of the sources:*

The Dijon scribe copied this famous chanson three times and used the same exemplar every time. The copies in the chansonniers Dijon and Laborde are identical (in Laborde he breaks a ligature in the tenor bars 10-11) and probably reproduce his exemplar without any writing errors. Copenhagen too is without errors (he has written “et” in stead of “est” in the first line of the poem!), but exhibits some small changes. He did omit the signature of one flat in the superius – this does not make any difference as most b's would be flattened anyway, and he supplied the important flats as accidentals (e.g. b. 19) – and changed a few details in ligatures and decoration (S b. 46.2; T bb. 13-14 and 38; C b. 11). The last change is interesting: While most sources in the contratenor's bar 11 have a *b-flat* during the whole bar (rhythmicized in different ways as a brevis, as two *semibreves* (Dijon and Laborde), as a dotted *semibrevis* and *minima*, as a *semibrevis*, a *minima-rest* and *minima*)<sup>1</sup> he here chose a *semibrevis* with *punctus b-flat* and a *minima a* (dissonant, but very elegant), which is exactly the same as in Leuven and Wolfenbüttel, possibly indicating an awareness of this version of the song.

The Wolfenbüttel version was copied after a different exemplar with a somewhat corrupt version of the poem (see above). The differences in the musical notation appear

1 Martella Gutiérrez-Denhoff (ed.), *Der Wolfenbütteler Chansonnier. Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, Codex Guelf. 287 Extrav.* (Musikalischer Denkmäler X), Mainz 1988, p. 145.

in ligatures (generally many more than in the Dijon scribe's versions: S bb. 23, 31-33.1, 35, 52.2-53.1, and 56; T bb. 10-15, 23-24, 32-33, 39, and 57-61; C b bb. 24-27, 35, 37.2-38.1, 43, 44.2-45.1, 46-47, 52, and 56), cadential decoration (S bb. 13.1, 27.2, and 46.2; T b. 21), and in the musical text with consequences (just as the ligatures have) for the text underlay (S bb. 19 and 50.2-51 (remark the dissonant *a'* in b. 51.1, which is found in the majority of sources - and corrected in the Dijon scribe's versions and in Leuven); T bb. 5.2-6.1 and b. 51; C bb. 11, 15 and 30-35), and the scribe notated the contratenor with only one flat and did not put in flats before *e'* in the tenor part.

The song appears in the Leuven chansonnier carefully copied without any errors. It is quite similar to the version that the Dijon scribe copied into Copenhagen. The superius parts are identical except for the cadential decoration, which the Dijon scribe removed in bar 46.2, but in the lower voices the Leuven version uses many more ligatures, also more than in Wolfenbüttel. This, of course, influences the text underlay and gives a workable performance different from those given by the other 'Loire Valley' sources. For example, the first three notes in the tenor are bound together in a ligature, and the note repetition in bars 5.2-6.1 is a single *brevis* note. This way of performing the tenor can also be found in the slightly later MSS Paris 15123 and Rome XII.27 and several other sources. In Leuven the poem has become more personalized in the *tierce*: Instead of referring to the beloved in the third person, the lover wants to be "voustre serviteur" (line 10). It produces a syllable too many, but fits the music perfectly.

These five sources probably are the earliest we know of for this chanson. It must have been in circulation for some time as it here appears in three interrelated, but different versions.

*Comments on text and music:*

The rondeau with paradise in its heart was a top hit for generations around 1500 – and rightly so. The extraordinarily strong tune in the tenor is perfectly balanced by a nearly as memorable tune in the superius and an unusual effective low contratenor - all parts are highly singable, and you will never forget the tenor tune! It is important to notice how triumphantly happy a Dorian tune – in what to us is g-minor – can sound.

Material from Hayne's song, especially from the tenor and superius, has been arranged and reworked by other composers in songs, instrumental pieces, motets and masses. The many sources for the widely circulated song exhibit quite a lot of variants, but this never impairs the personality of the song just as the tunes keep their individuality in the arrangements.

## Copenhagen no. 5

Copenhagen, The Royal Library, MS Thott 291 8°, ff. 4v-5

*De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse* [Hayne van Ghizeghem]

[Superius] Mensura = ♩

1. 4. De tous biens plai - ne\_est ma mais  
3. Je n'ay cu re d'au tre ri - - - -

1. 4. De tous biens plai - ne\_est ma mais  
3. Je n'ay cu re d'au tre ri - - - -

1. 4. De tous biens plai - ne\_est ma mais  
3. Je n'ay cu re d'au tre ri - - - -

7 tres ches - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

tres ches - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

tres ches - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

15 se, chas - cun lui doit tri - but d'on - - - -  
se, si non d'es - tre son ser vi - - - - - - - -

se, chas - cun lui doit tri - but d'on - - - -  
se, si non d'es - tre son ser vi - - - - - - - -

- se, chas - cun lui doit tri - but d'on - - - -  
- se, si non d'es - tre son ser vi - - - - - - - -

22 neur; neur; car et  
teur, teur,

neur; neur; car et  
teur, teur,

d'on vi - - - - neur; car et  
xi - - - - tour,

1) *Superius*, Text 1, bar 5, 2, "et" in MS (error).

30

car et as - sou - vye est en chois va - pour - ce qu'il n'est chois mil -

39

leur leur 1) au - tant mon  
va - leur leur au - tant en mon  
mil - leur leur au - tant en mon

47

que ja - mais fut de - es mot por - te ray  
que ja - mais fut de - es mot por - te ray ja - mais fut de - es mot por - te ray de - es sans ces

55

se. se:  
se. se:  
se. se:  
se. se:

1) *Superius*, text 1, bar 42.2, as a consequence of the low notes in bb. 40-44, which leave no room for the text, the line "autant que ..." has in the MS been moved to b. 48.2.

Copenhagen no. 5, p. 3



Dijon no. 10

Dijon, Bibliothèque Municipale, MS 517, ff. 14v-15: hayne

Laborde no. 49

Washington D.C., Library of Congress, MS M2.1 L25 Case, ff. 62v-63: Anonymous

[Superius] Mensura =  $\bullet$

1) Laborde: no mensuration signs in the MS.

2) Laborde: superius, text 3, b. 5.2. "d'autre".

3) Laborde, tenor, bars 10-11, no ligature.

25

1) Laborde: *Superius*, text 1, bar 42.2, as a consequence of the low notes in bb. 40-44, which leave no room for the text, the line "autant que ..." has in the MS been moved to b. 48.2.

Dijon no. 10 & Laborde no. 49, p. 3



Leuven no. 16

*De touz biens plaine est ma maistresse* [Hayne van Ghizeghem]

Leuven, Alamire Foundation, Manuscript without shelf number, ff. 20v-21

[Superius] Mensura =  $\textcircled{0}$

1. 4. De touz biens plai - ne\_est ma mais  
3. Je n'ay cu re d'aу - tre ri - ches

1. 4. De touz biens plai - ne\_est ma mais  
3. Je n'ay cu re d'aу - tre ri - ches

1. 4. De touz biens plai - ne\_est ma mais  
3. e n'ay cu re d'aу - tre ri - ches

tres ches

ne\_est ma mais tres  
d'aу tre ri - ches

mais - tres  
ri - ches

se, chas - cun luy doit tri - but d'on - vi  
se si non d'es tre vous - tre ser -

se, chas - cun luy doit tri - but d'on - vi  
se si non d'es tre vous - tre ser -

- se, chas - cun luy doit tri - but d'on - vi  
- se si non d'es tre vous - tre ser -

neur; neur; car et  
teur, teur,

d'on - neur; neur; car et  
ser vi - teur,

30

as - sou - vye  
pour  
car et pour  
ce qu'il  
as - sou - vye  
pour ce qu'il  
est n'est  
en choys  
va - meil -

39

leur leur  
leur leur  
au en tant que mot  
ja por - - te -  
meil - - - leur leur au en tant que mot

47

mais ray  
fut sans  
de ces  
mais ray  
fut sans  
de ces  
por - - ja - mais  
ray - - fut sans  
de ces - - es  
se.  
se:  
se.  
se:  
se.

55

ja - mais fut de se.  
se.  
se:  
se.  
se:  
se:  
se.





Wolfenbüttel no. 43

*De tous biens plaine est ma maistresse* [Hayne van Ghizeghem]

Wolfenbüttel, Herzog August Bibliothek, Codex Guelf. 287 Extravag.,

ff. 52<sup>v</sup>-53

[Superius]

Mensura =  $\bullet$

Wolfenbüttel no. 43, p. 2

30

ac - com - plie est qu'ung en chas - cun va soyt  
af - fin est chas - cun soyt  
car et af - fin qu'ung est chas - cun soyt  
ac - com - plie est chas - en cun  
af - fin qu'ung chas - - - cun

39

leur seur au - tant en mon au - tant en mon  
leur seur au - tant en mon  
va soyt leur seur au - tant en mon

47

1) qu'onc - ques fut maiz de es mot por te ray sans ces  
qu'onc - ques fut maiz de es mot por te ray sans ces  
qu'onc mot ques por fut maiz de es - - - sans ces

55

se. se:  
se. se:  
se. se:  
se. se:

1) *Superius*, text 1, bar 48.2, in MS: "qu'oncques maiz deesse" (error).

Wolfenbüttel no. 43, p. 3