Sicut lilium inter spinas

alla quarta bassa

Antoine Brumel (1460 - 1512/1513) Intabulation Arnold den Teuling 2018



Originally a motet for four voices, superius, contratenor, tenor and bassus, clefs G2, C3, C4, F4, with one flat. These are high clefs or chiavetti. This version has been transposed a fourth down (alla quarta bassa), as was usual with high clefs. But I give also a version on its notated pitch (come stà).

I halved the note values and added bar lines as was usual in early intabulations.

I used the edition by Edward Tambling in CPDL, who does not mention his source. I put the semibrevis c' together with the following semibrevis c' in bar 27, following the edition of Steve Repasky in CPDL, as I had no access to a renaissance source. Repasky's positioning of the text is in favour of this change.

The text is from Song of songs, 2,2, meaning: as a lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. Corina Marti played the keyboard tabulature by Johannes a Lublin a second higher than the original on a renaissance harpsichord, tuned a' at 440 Hz (Brilliant Classics, Johannes de Lublin tablature (1540)).