

Original pitch

Absalon, fili mi

(GB-Lbl Royal-8-G-vii, no. 32 / Pierre Alamire, London, c. 1513–c. 1525)

Anonymous

Edited by Simon Biazeck

?Josquin des Prez (c. 1450–1521)
?Pierre de la Rue (c. 1452–1518)

The musical score consists of four staves representing different voices:

- Superius (C3):** Treble clef, key signature of C minor (two flats). The vocal line starts at C2 and continues with notes and rests corresponding to the lyrics.
- Contratenor (C4):** Bass clef, key signature of C minor (two flats). The vocal line starts at C2 and continues with notes and rests corresponding to the lyrics.
- Tenor (F4):** Bass clef, key signature of A minor (one flat). The vocal line starts at C2 and continues with notes and rests corresponding to the lyrics. Two double bar lines with repeat dots are present above the staff.
- Bassus (F5):** Bass clef, key signature of A minor (one flat). The vocal line starts at C2 and continues with notes and rests corresponding to the lyrics. A double bar line with repeat dots is present above the staff.

The lyrics are: Ab - sa - lon, fi - li mi, fi - li mi,

The continuation of the musical score begins at measure 7:

- Superius:** Treble clef, key signature of C minor (two flats). Notes include a dotted quarter note followed by eighth notes, then a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.
- Contratenor:** Bass clef, key signature of C minor (two flats). Notes include a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.
- Tenor:** Bass clef, key signature of A minor (one flat). Notes include a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.
- Bassus:** Bass clef, key signature of A minor (one flat). Notes include a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.

The lyrics are: fi - li mi, Ab - sa -

The continuation of the musical score begins at measure 13:

- Superius:** Treble clef, key signature of C minor (two flats). Notes include a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.
- Contratenor:** Bass clef, key signature of C minor (two flats). Notes include a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.
- Tenor:** Bass clef, key signature of A minor (one flat). Notes include a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.
- Bassus:** Bass clef, key signature of A minor (one flat). Notes include a half note with a fermata over it, followed by eighth notes.

The lyrics are: lon, fi - li mi, Ab - sa - lon, fi - li

** The *Tenor* has signed accidentals E♭ & A♭. The *Bassus* has E♭, A♭ & D♭; the latter in the lower octave only (see *Bassus*, b. 41). The required B-flats are illusory and are provided here in the key signatures by the editor.

19

mi,
Ab - sa - lon, fi - li mi,
Ab - sa - lon, fi - li mi, Ab - sa - lon,
li mi, fi - li mi, Ab - sa - lon,

25
mi,
Ab - sa - lon, fi -
li mi, fi - li mi,
fi - li mi, Ab - sa - lon,
fi - li mi, Ab - sa - lon,

30
li mi, Ab - sa - lon, Ab -
sa - lon, fi - li mi,
fi - li mi, Ab - sa - lon, fi -
li mi, Ab - sa - lon, Ab - sa - lon

35
sa - lon, quis det ut mo - ri - ar
Ab - sa - lon, fi - li mi, quis
- li mi, Ab - sa - lon, fi - li mi,
fi - li mi, quis det ut mo - ri -

40

Absalon, fili mi

pro-te, ut mo-ri-ar pro-te,
det ut mo-ri-ar pro-te,
quis det ut mo-ri-
ar pro-te, ut mo-ri-ar pro-

fi li mi Ab-sa-lon?
mo-ri-ar pro-te, fi li mi Ab-sa-lon? Non
ar, pro-te, fi li mi, Ab ³sa-lon? Non vi-
te, fi li mi, Ab sa-lon? Non vi-

Non vi-vam ul tra, non
vi-vam ul tra, non
vam, vi - vam ul tra, non
Non vi-vam ul tra, non

vi-vam ul tra, sed de-scen-dam
vi-vam ul tra, sed de-scen-
ul tra, sed de-scen-dam in
ul tra, sed de-scen-

** D^b implied by the original key signature (see footnote on p. 1).

