

The Arundel Lyrics



The Poems of Hugh Primas

Edited and Translated by

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DUMBARTON OAKS

MEDIEVAL LIBRARY

HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

LONDON, ENGLAND

2010

PA
8122
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2010

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Printed in the United States of America

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

The Arundel lyrics ; The poems of Hugh Primas / edited and translated by Christopher McDonough.

p. cm.—(Dumbarton Oaks medieval library; DOML 2)

Latin and English.

This volume presents two medieval anthologies containing lyrics by two Latin poets of the second half of the twelfth century, Peter of Blois and Hugo Primas.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-0-674-05557-5 (alk. paper)

1. Latin poetry, Medieval and modern—Translations into English.
2. Songs, Latin (Medieval and modern)—Translations into English.
3. Peter, of Blois, ca. 1135—ca. 1212—Translations into English.
4. Hugo Primas, Aurelianensis, ca. 1093—ca. 1160—Translations into English. I. McDonough, Christopher James, 1942— II. Peter, of Blois, ca. 1135—ca. 1212. Poems. English & Latin. Selections. III. Hugo Primas, Aurelianensis, ca. 1093—ca. 1160. Poems. English & Latin. Selections. IV. Title: Poems of Hugh Primas.

PA8122.A78 2010

881'.0208—dc22

2010015239

20 dum, quem haurio,
 favus allicit
 dato basio.

3. Sepe refero
 cursum liberum
 25 sinu tenero,
 sic me superum
 addens numero;
 cunctis impero
 felix, iterum
 30 si tetigero,
 quem desidero,
 sinum tenerum
 tactu libero.

4

1a. A globo veteri
 cum rerum faciem
 traxissent superi,
 mundi que seriem
 5 prudens explicuit
 et texuit,
 Natura
 iam preconceperat
 quod fuerat
 10 factura.

her talk of love, as the sweetness I drink in from the gift of 20
her kiss entices me.

3. I often recall moving freely over her soft breast, thus 25
adding myself to the company of gods. I shall rule over the
world in bliss, if once more I caress the tender breast I long 30
for, touching it unhindered.

4

1a. When the gods had drawn the form of the physical 5
realm out of the ancient mass, Nature, who expertly un-
folded and constructed the connected system of the world,
had already thought out in advance what she would create. 10

- 1b. Que causas machine
 mundane suscitans,
 de nostra virgine
 iam dudum cogitans,
 15 plus hanc excoluit,
 plus prebuit
 honoris,
 dans privilegium
 et precium
 20 laboris.
- 2a. In hac pre ceteris
 tocius operis
 Nature lucet opera.
 Tot munera
 25 nulli favoris contulit,
 set extulit
 hanc ultra cetera.
- 2b. Et, que puellulis
 avara singulis
 30 solet partiri singula,
 huic sedula
 inpendit copiosius
 et plenius
 forme munuscula.
- 35 3a. Nature studio
 longe venustata,
 contendit lilio
 rugis non crispata
 frons nivea.

1b. As Nature stirred into action the causal agencies of
 the world structure, thinking long about our young girl, she
 adorned her more, provided her more honor, bestowing [her 15
 as a] preferment and a reward for the undertaking. 20

2a. In this girl more than in the rest of all creation, Nature's
 handiwork sparkles. On no other did she bestow so many gifts of her favor;
 but this woman she exalted beyond 25
 the rest.

2b. And Nature, who in her miserly way usually appor-
 tions one gift apiece to each young girl, eagerly expended 30
 beauty's gifts on her more abundantly and unstintingly.

3a. Graced with utmost loveliness by Nature's ardor, her 35
 brow rivals the lily; white as snow and disfigured by no wrin-

- 40 Simplices sydereae
 luce micant ocelli.
- 3b. Omnes amancium
 trahit in se visus,
 spondens remedium
45 verecunda risus
 lascivia.
 Arcus supercilia
 discriminant gemelli.
- 4a. Ab utriusque luminis
50 confinio
 moderati libraminis
 iudicio
 naris eminencia
 producitur venuste
55 quadam temperantia:
 nec nimis erigitur,
 nec premitur
 iniuste.
- 4b. Allicit verba dulcibus
60 et osculis,
 castigate tumentibus
 labellulis,
 roseo nectareus
 odor infusus ori.
- 65 Pariter eburneus
 sedet ordo dencium
 par nivium
 candori.

kles. Her artless, darling eyes flash with the brilliance of 40
stars.

3b. She draws to herself lovers' every glance, as she prom- 45
ises a remedy in the modest playfulness of her laughter. Twin
arches separate her eyebrows.

4a. From the boundary of each eye, in a judgment of 50
restrained balance, the projection of her nose extends charm-
ingly with a certain restraint: it does not rise up unduly nor 55
is it abnormally flat.

4b. She entices with the sweet words and kisses of her 60
gently swelling lips. The fragrance of nectar is infused into
her rose-colored mouth. Her row of teeth sits evenly, white 65
as ivory, matching the radiance of snow.

5a. Certant nivi, micant lene
 70 pectus, mentum, colla, gene;
 set, ne candore nimio
 evanescant in pallorem,
 precastigat hunc candorem
 rosam maritans lilio
 75 prudencior Natura,
 ut ex his fiat apcior
 et gracios
 mixtura.

5b. Rapit michi me Coronis,
 80 privilegiata donis
 et Gratiarum flosculis.
 Nam Natura, dulcioris
 alimenta dans erroris,
 dum in stuporem populis
 85 hanc omnibus ostendit,
 in risu blando retia
 Veneria
 tetendit.

5

1. Estivali Clarius
 sublimatus rota
 estuat vicinius
 vi caloris tota.

5a. Her breast, chin, neck, and cheeks vie with snow, and 70
 glow gently; but to prevent them fading away into pallor
 from an excessive whiteness, Nature rather cleverly tempers 75
 this brilliance in advance by marrying the rose with the lily,
 so that out of these two arises a more suitable and graceful
 combination.

5b. Privileged by the gifts and flowers of the Graces, 80
 Coronis sweeps me away from myself. For Nature, supply-
 ing fuel for a sweeter madness, when she exhibited this girl
 to astound all nations, stretched out the nets of love in her
 alluring smile. 85

5

1. Apollo soars in his chariot of summer and blazes closer
 with all the violence of his heat. The force of a different