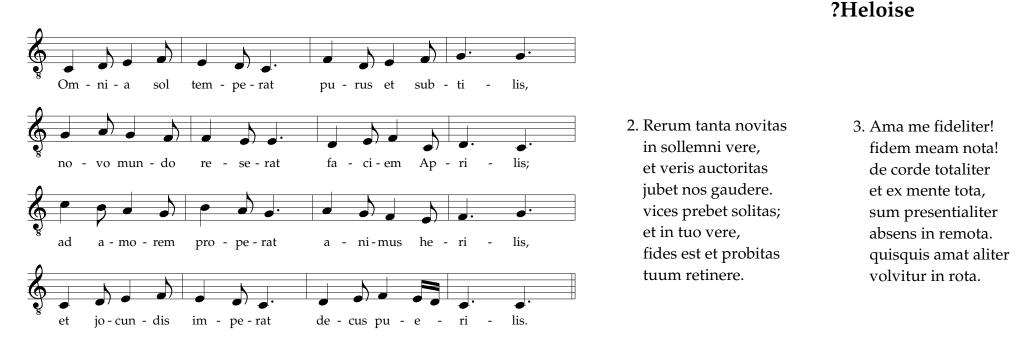


## Two Songs from the 'School of Abelard'

Edited by David Wulstan

## **Omnia sol temperat**



Translation of first stanza:

The pure and gentle sun brings warmth; in a renewed world he reveals April's face; the master's spirit propels us towards love, and the boy-god [Eros] ordains jollity.

This anonymous lyric (number 136 in the Carmina Burana collection, appearing in one of the 'School of Abelard' sections) has no musical notation in the MS. It has been ascribed to Heloise by John O Ward (see The Poetic and Musical Legacy of Heloise and Abelard - published by the PMMS – for details, including the reasons for associating the words with this tune). This, and other lyrics apparently emanating from the 'School', may be seen in the forthcoming Music from the Paraclete.... The word herilis could be masculine (paterfamilias or the like) or feminine (*mistress*) or, as is possible if and when Heloise wrote the lyric, the word might even embody 'the spirit of the master's mistress'.

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Fama mendax

Note: Manuscript ligatures are indicated by square brackets. The liquescent interpreted as two notes is indicated by a sloping line below; the liquescent interpreted as one note is given a short sloping line above.

This is one of several lyrics by Hilary, pupil of Abelard, on similar themes. The poem uses the 'goliardic decasyllabic' rhythm found in various items of The Play of Daniel such as 'Cum Judee' (see the PMMS edition, number 13). As the Play (both the Beauvais version and the Daniel play of Hilary himself) seems to have depended on a prototype known at the School of Abelard, it is not impossible that this is the tune that Hilary had in mind when composing this lyric. For further details and the complete text, see Music from the Paraclete ..., forthcoming.

Translation of the opening stanza (there is something of a *double entendre* in the word *candida*, for *candida nox* is 'a successful night'): *Lying rumour, rumour of treachery; flirtatious rumour, yet full of jealousy;* Rumour spreading falsity, but never a good lie; promising yet purveying little that is true.

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