

Most clere of colour

A Song

Most clere of colour and rote of stedfastness,
With vertu connyng her maner is lede,
Which that passyth my mynde for to express
Of her bounte, beaute and womanhode;
The bryghtest myrroure and floure of goodlyhed,
Which that all men knowith, both more and less;
Thes vertues byn pryntyd in her doutless.

Edited by Humphrey Thompson.

Sources: GB-Lbl Add. MS 5465 (Fayrfax MS).

Ligature and coloration brackets have been omitted to aid readability.

Robert Fayrfax (1464-1521)

Musical score for the first system, featuring three vocal parts: Altus, Contratenor, and Tenor. Each part begins with a C-clef and a 'Most' marking. The music is in 4/2 time. The lyrics are: 'Most clear of colour root of stedfastness, _____'.

Musical score for the second system, featuring three vocal parts: A. (Altus), Ct. (Contratenor), and B. (Tenor). The music is in 4/2 time. The lyrics are: 'of stedfastness, _____ With virtue cunning her man-ner'.

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A. Which that pas - seth my mind for to ex - press. Of

Ct. is led, Which that pas-seth my mind for to ex - press. Of her boun -

B. man - ner is led, Which that pas - seth my mind for to ex - press Of her boun -

15

A. her boun - ty beau - ty and wo - man - hood.

Ct. ty, beau - ty and wo - man - hood.

B. ty beau - - ty and wo - man - hood.

18

A.

Ct.

B.