

THOMAS TALLIS  
(c.1505-1585)

THE LAMENTATIONS OF JEREMIAH  
II  
(ATTBarB)



*Thomas Tallis*

*THOMAS TALLIS*

Critical edition by  
Carlos Rodríguez Otero

# TEXT AND TRANSLATION

## LATIN

*De lamentatione Jeremiae prophetae.*

*GHIMEL. Migravit Juda propter afflictionem ac<sup>1</sup> multitudinem servitutis, habitavit inter gentes, nec invenit requiem.*

*DALETH. Omnes persecutores eius apprehenderunt eam inter angustias. [Viæ Sion] lugent, eo quod non sint qui veniant ad solemnitatem. Omnes portæ eius destructæ, sacerdotes eius gementes, virgines eius squalidae, et ipsa oppressa amaritudine.*

*HETH. Facti sunt hostes eius in capite, inimici illius locupletati sunt; quia Dominus locutus est super eam propter multitudinem iniquitatum<sup>2</sup> eius. Parvuli eius ducti sunt captivi ante faciem tribulantis.*

*Jerusalem, Jerusalem, convertere ad Dominum Deum tuum.*

## ENGLISH

From the lamentation of Jeremiah the prophet.

*GHIMEL.* Judah is gone into captivity because of affliction, and because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest.

*DALETH.* All her persecutors overtook her between the straits. The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts: all her gates are desolate: her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and she is in bitterness.

*HETH.* Her adversaries are the chief, her enemies prosper; for the Lord hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, return unto the Lord thy God.

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<sup>1</sup> Sources **F** and **I** have 'et' instead of 'ac' (see Critical Commentary for a description of the sources).

<sup>2</sup> Source **C** has 'iniquitatem', **I**: 'iniquitatis' (see Critical Commentary for a description of the sources).





24

æ pro - phe - - - - - tæ, pro - phe - - - - - tæ.  
 la - men - ta - ti - o - - - - - ne Je - re - mi - æ pro - phe - - - - - tæ.  
 (14) (17) (19)  
 - tæ, Je - re - mi - æ pro - phe - - - - - tæ.  
 (16)  
 - - - - - tæ, pro - phe - - - - - tæ.  
 (15) (18)  
 - - - - - tæ, pro - phe - - - - - tæ.

29

Ghi - - - - - mel, Ghi - - - - - mel,  
 (20) (21) (22)  
 Ghi - - - - - mel, Ghi - - - - - mel, Ghi - - - - - mel,  
 (23)  
 Ghi - - - - - mel,  
 Ghi - - - - - mel,  
 Ghi - - - - - mel,

34

Ghi - - - - - mel, Ghi - - - - - mel,  
 (25) (26) (27)  
 Ghi - - - - - mel, Ghi - - - - - mel,  
 (24) (28)  
 Ghi - - - - - mel, Ghi - - - - - mel,  
 (29)  
 Ghi - - - - - mel, Ghi - - - - - mel,

39

Ghi - mel, Ghi - mel, mel. mel.

(30) Ghi - mel, Ghi - mel, Ghi - mel. (32)

mel, Ghi - mel.

mel, Ghi - mel.

(31) mel, Ghi - mel.

43

Mi - gra - vit Ju - da pro - pter af - fli - cti - o - nem

Mi - gra - vit Ju - da pro - pter af - fli - cti - o - nem ac

Mi - gra - vit Ju - da pro - pter af - fli - cti - o - nem

Mi - gra -

48

ac mul - ti - tu - di - nem ser - vi - tu - tis, ac mul - ti - tu -

mul - ti - tu - di - nem ser - vi - tu - tis, ac mul - ti - tu - di -

ac mul - ti - tu - di - nem ser - vi - tu - tis, ser -

vit Ju - da pro - pter af - fli - cti - o - nem ac mul - ti - tu -

Mi - gra - vit Ju - da pro -

53

- di-nem ser - vi - tu - tis, ac mul - ti - tu - di - nem ser - vi - tu -  
 nem ser - vi - tu - tis:  
 (34) - vi - tu - tis, ac mul - ti - tu - di - nem ser - vi - tu -  
 - di-nem ser - vi - tu - tis, ac mul - ti - tu - di - nem ser - vi - tu -  
 - pter af - fli - cti - o - nem ac mul - ti - tu - di - nem ser - vi - tu -

58

tis: ha - bi - ta - vit in - ter gen - tes,  
 ha - bi - ta - vit in - ter gen - tes, in - ter gen -  
 - tis: ha - bi - ta - vit in - ter gen - tes, in - ter gen -  
 tis, ser - vi - tu - tis: ha - bi - ta - vit in - ter -  
 tis: ha - bi - ta - vit

63

ha - bi - ta - vit in - ter gen - tes, nec  
 (38) tes, ha - bi - ta - vit in - ter gen - tes, nec in - ve - nit re -  
 (37) - tes, ha - bi - ta - vit in - ter gen - tes,  
 in - ter gen - tes, in - ter gen - tes,  
 in - ter gen - tes, nec in - ve - nit re - qui -





81 (48) leth, Da - - - - - leth. (4) leth, Da - - - - - leth. (49) leth, Da - - - - - leth, Da - - - - - leth. Da - - - - - leth, Da - - - - - leth. Da - - - - - leth, Da - - - - - leth.

86 (50) (51) O - mnes per - se - cu - to - res e - ius ap - pre - hen - de - runt e - O - mnes per - se - cu - to - res e - ius ap - pre - hen - de - runt

92 - am i - nter an - gu - sti - - as, O - - - - - mnes e - am in - ter an - gu - sti - - as, O - - - - - mnes O - - - - - mnes O - - - - -

97

per - se - cu - to - res e - ius ap - pre - hen - de - runt  
 mnes per - se - cu - to - res e - ius ap - pre - hen - de - runt  
 per - se - cu - to - res e - ius ap - pre - hen - de - runt  
 mnes per - se - cu - to - res e - ius ap - pre - hen - de - runt e -  
 mnes per - se - cu - to - res e - ius ap - pre - hen - de - runt

102

e - am in - ter an - gu - sti - as,  
 e - am in - ter an - gu - sti - as, i -  
 e - am in - ter an - gu - sti - as, in - ter an -  
 - am in - ter an - gu - sti - as, an - gu - sti - as,  
 e - am in - ter an - gu - sti - as, in - ter an -

107

in - ter an - gu - sti - as.  
 nter an - gu - sti - as, an - gu - sti - as.  
 gu - sti - as, an - gu - sti - as. Lu - gent e - o quod  
 in - ter an - gu - sti - as. Lu - gent e - o quod non sunt.  
 gu - sti - as, an - gu - sti - as. Lu - gent e - o quod non sunt.

112

Lu - gent e - o quod non sunt -  
 Lu - gent e - o quod non  
 non sunt qui ve - ni - ant ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem, ad so -  
 — qui ve - ni - ant ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem, lu - gent e - o quod non  
 — qui ve - ni - ant ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem,

117

— qui ve - ni - ant ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem, ad so - lem - ni - ta -  
 sunt qui ve - ni - ant ad so - lem - ni - ta -  
 lem - ni - ta - tem, so -  
 sunt qui ve - ni - ant ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem, ad so - lem - ni - ta -  
 ad so - lem - ni - ta -

122

tem, ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem. O -  
 lem - ni - ta - tem, so - lem - ni - ta - tem. O -  
 tem, ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem, so - lem - ni - ta - tem. O -  
 tem, ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem.

127

O - mnes por - tæ e - ius de - stru - ctæ, sa -  
 - mnes por - tæ e - ius de - stru - ctæ, sa - cer -  
 O - mnes por - tæ e - ius de - stru - ctæ, sa - cer - do - tes e -  
 - mnes por - tæ e - ius de - stru - ctæ, sa - cer - do  
 O - mnes por - tæ e - ius de - stru - ctæ,

132

- cer - do - tes e - ius ge - men - tes, vir - gi - nes e - ius  
 do - tes e - ius ge - men - tes, vir - gi - nes e -  
 ius ge - men - tes, vir - gi - nes e - ius squa - li -  
 - tes e - ius ge - men - tes, vir - gi - nes e - ius  
 sa - cer - do - tes e - ius ge - men - tes, vir -

137

squa - li - dæ, et i - psa op - pres - sa a - ma - ri - tu - di -  
 - ius squa - li - dæ, et i - psa op - pres - sa a - ma - ri - tu - di -  
 - dæ, et i - psa op - pres - sa, op - pres - sa a - ma - ri -  
 squa - li - dæ, et i - psa op - pres - sa a - ma - ri -  
 - gi - nes e - ius squa - li - dæ, et i - psa op - pres - sa a -

142 (81) #

ne, a - ma - ri - tu - di - ne, a -

(80) # (4)

- - - ne, a - ma - ri - tu - di - ne, a - ma - ri - tu - di -

tu - di - ne, a - ma - ra - tu - di - - - ne, a - ma - ri - tu - di - ne, a -

tu - di - ne, a - ma - ri - tu - di - ne - - - a - ma - ri - tu - di -

ma - ri - tu - di - ne, a - ma - ri - tu - di - ne, a - ma - ri - tu -

147 (36) (83)

ma - ri - tu - di - ne. Heth, Heth,

ne. Heth,

(85)

ma - ri - tu - di - ne. Heth,

(83)

- ne. Heth, Heth,

(84)

(82) (86)

di - - - ne. Heth, Heth,

151

Heth,

Heth,

Heth,

Heth,

(4) (4)

Heth, Fa - cti sunt ho -

(87)

155

Fa - cti sunt ho - stes  
 - stes e - ius in ca - pi - te, i - ni - mi - ci il - li - us,  
 Fa - cti sunt ho - stes e - ius in ca - pi - te,

160

Fa - cti sunt ho - stes e - ius in ca - pi - te, i - ni - mi -  
 Fa - cti sunt ho - stes e - ius in  
 e - ius in ca - pi - te, i - ni - mi - ci il -  
 il - li - us lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt,  
 i - ni - mi - ci il - li - us lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt, lo - cu - ple -

165

- ci il - li - us lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt, lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt;  
 ca - pi - te, i - ni - mi - ci il - li - us lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt;  
 li - us lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt; Qui - a  
 lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt, lo - cu - ple - ta -  
 ta - ti sunt, lo - cu - ple - ta - ti sunt; Qui - a

170

Qui - a Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus est su - per e -  
 Qui - a Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus est su - per e - am  
 Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus est su - per e - am pro - pter mul - ti -  
 ti - sunt; Qui - a Do - mi - nus lo -  
 Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus est su - per e - am pro - pter mul - ti -

174

- am pro - pter mul - ti - tu - di - nem, qui - a  
 (96) pro - pter mu - ti - tu - di - nem, qui - a Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus est su -  
 tu - di - nem i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - ius, qui - a Do - mi -  
 cu - tus est su - per e - am pro - pter mul - ti - tu - di - nem i - ni - qui - ta - tum e -  
 tu - di - nem i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - ius, qui - a Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus

179

Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus est su - per e - am pro - pter mul - ti - tu - di - nem  
 (97) - per e - am pro - pter mul - ti - tu - di - nem i - ni - qui - ta - tum e -  
 nus lo - cu - tus est su - per e - am pro - pter mul - ti - tu - di -  
 (98) ius, qui - a Do - mi - nus lo - cu - tus est su - per e - am pro - pter  
 (99) est su - per e - am pro - pter mul - ti - tu - di - nem i - ni - qui - ta - tum e -

184 (100) #

i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - - - ius, i -  
 ius, i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - - ius, i - ni - qui - ta - tum -  
 nem i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - - - ius, i - ni - qui -  
 mul - ti - tu - di - nem i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - - - ius  
 ius. i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - - ius,

189 (102) #

(101) (103) #

ni - qui - ta - tum e - - - ius; par - vu - li e -  
 e - ius, i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - ius; par - vu - li e -  
 ta - tum e - - ius, e - ius; par - vu - li e -  
 i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - - - ius; par - vu - li e -  
 i - ni - qui - ta - tum e - - ius; par - vu - li e -

194

(4) (105) (104) (106) (107)

ius du - cti sunt ca - pti - vi an - te fa - ci - em tri - bu -  
 ius du - cti sunt ca - pti - vi an - te fa - ci - em tri -  
 ius du - cti sunt ca - pti - vi an - te fa - ci - em tri -  
 ius du - cti sunt ca - pti - vi an - te fa - ci - em tri -  
 ius du - cti sunt ca - pti - vi an - te fa - ci - em tri - bu -



199

lan - tis, tri - bu - lan - tis. Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa -  
 bu - lan - tis, tri - bu - lan - tis. Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa -  
 - bu - lan - tis, tri - bu - lan - tis. Je -  
 - bu - lan - tis, tri - bu - lan - tis Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa -  
 lan - tis, tri - bu - lan - tis, Je -

(108) (109)

107=110

204

lem, Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, con -  
 lem, Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, con -  
 ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa -  
 - lem, Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa - - lem,  
 ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa-lem, Je - ru - sa -

(110) (109) (4)

207

ver - te-re ad Do - mi - num, con - ver - te-re ad Do - mi -  
 ver - te-re ad Do - mi - num, con - ver - te-re ad Do -  
 lem, con - ver - te - re ad Do - mi - num, con - ver - te - re ad  
 - con - ver - te-re ad Do - mi - num, con - ver - te-re ad  
 lem, con - ver - te-re ad Do - mi - num, con -

(111) (112)

210 (117)

num De - um tu - - - um, De - um tu - um,

(115)

- mi - num De - um tu - - - um, De - um tu -

(113)

Do - mi - num De - um tu - um, De -

(114) (118)

Do - mi - num De - um tu - - - um, De - um tu - -

(116)

ver - te - re ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - um, De -

213

ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - um, con -

- um ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - - um, con -

- um tu - um, ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - -

(118)

- um, ad Do - mi - num De - - um tu - - um,

um tu - um ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - -

217

ver - te - re ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - - - - -

(120) (123)

ver - te - re ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - - um, de -

(119) (121)

um, con - ver - te - re ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - -

(118)

con - ver - te - re ad Do - mi - num De - um tu - - - - -

(112) (50,122)

-um, con - ver - te - re ad Do - mi - num De - um tu -

220

um. Con - ver - te - re ad Do -  
 um tu - um. Con - ve - te - re ad  
 um, tu - um, Con - ver - te - re ad Do - mi -  
 um. Con - ver - te - re ad Do -  
 um, Con - ver - te - re ad

(50)  
 (69)

223

- mi - num De - um tu - - - - - um.  
 Do - mi - num De - um tu - - - - - um.  
 - num De - - um tu - - - - - um.  
 - mi - num De - um tu - - - - - um.  
 Do - mi - num De - um tu - - - - - um.

(121)  
 (124)  
 (125) (126) (107)

# NOTES

(1) F: no lig. (2) I: '-tæ' here (3) (4) F: no ♯ (5)

B: mie - pro - phe - - tæ  
C: mi - e - pro - phe - tæ

I: tæ, pr[o] - f[e]  
(to b. 16)

(7) I: (8) A: 'pro-' here, '-phe-' on o; C: missing '-phe-'; D: '-phe-' uncl.; I: see fn. 7 (9)

(phe) - tæ, pro phe -

I: tæ, pro - phe -

(10) C,D: no lig. (11) C: (12) C,F: no lig. (13)

tae, pro - phe

I: pro - f[e] - tæ

(14) F: '-tæ' here (15) E,I: lig. (2 o); I: '-tae' here (see fn. 6) (16) F: lig. (17)

C: pro - - phe -

(18) (19) (20) C only has the first 'Ghimel' (21) A: om. this 'Ghimel' C,F: only include first 'Ghimel'

B: pro - phe - tæ,  
I: pro-phe -

I: (æ) pro - phe

(22) A, I: om. this 'Ghimel'; I only has the first two (23) F, I only have the first 'Ghimel' (24) C only has the first 'Ghimel' F: only first two. (25) D has a ditto mark here

(26): C, I: C o here. (27) lig. in A only (28) F, I: lig. (29) B: om. this 'Ghimel'; C, D only have the first

(30) (31) B: '-mel' here, 'Gi-' on following (32) I: no ♯

A: Ghi - mel, - Ghi - mel -  
F: mel, - - Ghi -

(33) D: '-tis' here? (34) C: 'tu' here (35) F, ?A: no ♯ (36) C: no ♯ (37) C: '-tes' here

(38) (39) A, I: '-tes' here? (40)

I: in - ter gen -

F: re - qui - - em, -  
em, -

(41) C: '-em\_' here (42) C: 're-' until '-qui-' at b. 76 (43) C: '-nit' here (44) A: d. (45) C,F only have first 'Daleth' (46) C only has first 'Daleth'

(47) C,I: only include first 'Daleth' (48) D: om. this 'Daleph'; F: ditto mark at b.86 (49) b in C only (50) F, G1, G2: ♯

(51) (52) C,F: '-ius' here (53) F: '-runt\_' here, 'e-' on d. (54) F: '-am' here

C: e - am, e - am -  
D: e - - am (uncl.)

A: 'sti' here?

(55) C: '-ter\_' here, F uncl. (56) A: no b here or preceding bar (57) E: ♯ (58)

C: an - gu - sti - - as  
A: sti? - as

(59) A: '-tem' here; C: '-ni-' here, '-ta-' on A d; F uncl. (60) A: '-tem\_' here (61) (62) A: no ♯ for the next few bars

C,F: ad so - lem - ni - ta - tem

(63) F: '-tem\_' extended to first ♩ of b. 124; I: E♯ uncl. (64) F: ♩♩ (65) (66) F: A ♩ F ♩ here (67) D: missing this note  
C: ad\_\_\_\_\_ so - lem - ni - ta

(68) ♭ in I only (69) G1 has B♯s this bar (70) F, G1, G2: D♯ (71) I: no ♯ here nor at bb. 132, 133, 138, 141 (ambiguous)

(72) (73) C: ♩ ◦ ♩ | ♩  
F: (de) - stru - - - - - ctae, sa - cer - do -  
(e-) ius de-stru-

(74) I: '-tes' here (75) F: '-tes' here (76) F: '-d[ā]' here? ; C: '-li-' on G ♩ (77): A, F: no ♭ (see note 78); and C has missed ♯s in preceding bars (fn. 38). Uncl.

(78) A,F: no ♭ (see note 77) (79) F: '-sa' here (80) F: '-ne' here; (81) A: '-di-' here (D, F uncl.) (82) C: '-ne' here? ; B: 'di' on F ♩ I: either here or on ◦

(83) C,F only have first 'Heth' (84) F only has first 'Heth' (85) I only has first 'Heth' (86) C,I only have first 'Heth' (87) B: add. 'Heth'

(88) (89) B,C: 'ca-' here (90) C: 'ca-' on B♭ q; (91) C, ?D: '-ca' here  
(see note 90, 91) F: on A ♩ (see notes 89, 91) (see notes 89, 90)  
E: (ho) - stes\_\_\_ in ca -

(92) F: ♯ annotated (93) C,F: 'ca-' here (94) F: '-us' here (95) C: 'sunt' here (96) F: 'ti' ◦ instead of ♩

(97) (98) F: ♩♩ (99) C: '-nem' here; F uncl. (100) D: '-ius' here (101) I: 'e-' here, preceding and following text uncl. (102) A: 'e-' uncl.  
F: am pro-pter mul - ti - tu - di I: no text until 2nd ♩ of b. 186

(103) (104) I: '-vi' here (105)   
C,F? : ni - qui - ta-tem e - (uncl.) C: tri - bu - lan - tis, tri-bu-lan - F: tri - bu - lan - tis

(106) I: 'tri-' here (107): G1, G2: ♯ (108): F: om. 'tribulantis' (109) G2: ♯ (110) F,I: no ♯ (111)   
F: ad\_\_\_ Do - mi-num De - um,

(112) B: no ♭ (113) C: 'Do-' here, 'mi-' on F ♩ (114) F: 'ad Dominum deum tuum' here, one note per syllable; I: 'tu' on D ♩

(115) C: um\_  
F: tu - - - um\_\_\_ ad Do - mi - num De - um (116) E: 'tu-' here (117): F: ♩♩ instead of ♩, 'tu-' on 2nd ♩  
I: con - ver - - te - re ad Do - mi - num De - um

(118) I: 'tu-' here (119) F: 'mi' here (120) F: '-um' here (121) C: '-num' here (122) B, G1, G2: B♭ C♯ here (123) C has 'tuum', F has nothing.

(124) (125) C,E: 'um' here (126) B: 'tu-' here  
F: um tu - um, De - - um tu - I: um\_\_\_ tu - - -

## CRITICAL COMMENTARY

The question of whether Thomas Tallis' two surviving settings of texts from the Book of Lamentations (*Incipit lamentatio* & *De lamentatione*)—the first being of the book's first two verses, and the second of verses three to five—were conceived as a unit is one to which there is yet no conclusive answer. However, these texts' role in the Sarum liturgy as the first two lessons of *Tenebrae* for Maundy Thursday, the fact that Tallis' settings appear in collocated positions in several of the earliest surviving sources, and the frequent performance of these as a single work, can hardly be ignored. John Milsom has suggested that the settings were possibly written around the mid- to late 1560s.<sup>1</sup> He also suggested that stylistic factors, as well as the chronology of the manuscript sources (inasmuch as it as can be worked out), that the first Lamentation—*Incipit lamentatio*—might have been written after the *De lamentatione*. Its extraordinary and complex 'tonal argument', with carefully calculated modulations away from and back towards the home modality of mode iii/iv (or E phrygian/hypophrygian), suggest a later composition date. *Incipit lamentatio* is also more texturally complex, reinforcing this hypothesis. In any case, both are certainly works of consummate skill and, to many, of great beauty.

### Sources

Below is a table of all the surviving manuscript sources, including specific details such as the exact location of the pieces. The Lamentations are among the more well-documented of Tallis' works, although crucially none of the sources is in Tallis' hand.

The earliest source is most likely GB-Ob MSS Mus. e. 1–5, known as the Sadler Partbooks (**A**) after their owner John Sadler, a merchant from Norwich.<sup>2</sup> This complete set of five partbooks, compiled c.1565–85, is 'one of the most important English sources for Latin-texted sacred music from the latter half of the sixteenth century'.<sup>3</sup> Meticulously copied and finely decorated, it is likely that these are the earliest surviving source to contain the Lamentations because, as David Mateer suggests, the section they are in was probably copied c. 1565–70.<sup>4</sup> If this were true, it would support Milsom's dating of the Lamentations, and perhaps push it back by a few years to the first half or middle of the 1560s. Occasional annotations suggest that these partbooks were used in performance, perhaps by musically literate merchants.

The two next oldest sources are GB-Ob MS Tenbury 1464 (**B**), an orphaned bass partbook from a set of probably five copied c.1575 containing only *De lamentatione*, and GB-Och MSS Mus. 979–83 (**C**), a set of originally five partbooks, missing the tenor book, known as the Baldwin Partbooks, copied c.1575–81. The lack of the first Lamentation in the former source, as well as its presence after *De lamentatio* in the latter, support the idea that that the second Lamentation might have been written first. Source **C**, although not as richly decorated as **A**, is a key source of Byrd and Tallis' music. John Baldwin, who copied the partbooks himself, was an experienced singer and amateur composer associated with St George's Chapel, Windsor, and maintained close ties with Byrd's musical circle. He was

<sup>1</sup> John Milsom, 'English polyphonic style in transition: a study of the sacred music of Thomas Tallis' (unpublished doctoral thesis, University of Oxford, 1983), Vol. I: 49.

<sup>2</sup> Matthias Range and Julia Craig-McFeely, 'Forty Years in the Wilderness: John Sadler of the Sadler Partbooks', *Music and Letters* 101/4 (November 2020): 657–89.

<sup>3</sup> James Burke, 'John Sadler and the Sadler partbooks (Oxford, Bodleian Library MSS Mus. e. 1–5)' (unpublished doctoral thesis, University of Oxford, 2017), Vol. I: 1.

<sup>4</sup> David Mateer, 'John Sadler and Oxford, Bodleian Mss Mus. e. 1–5', *Music & Letters* 60/3 (July 1979): 281–295.

later associated with the Chapel Royal, of which Tallis was a member.<sup>5</sup> Roger Bray writes that ‘small details’ such as Baldwin’s more relaxed attitude to accidentals should not cast into doubt the thoroughness and skilfulness of his work.<sup>6</sup> Although we know that he occasionally altered text-settings in order to ‘modernize’ them, such as removing long final-syllable melismata that were a typical feature of the florid English style of the early sixteenth century.<sup>7</sup>

GB-Lbl Add. MS 32377 (**D**) an orphaned Cantus partbook originally from a set of five, was copied c.1585-90, perhaps by Hugh Geare of Dorset, a possible relative of the Dorset clergyman John Geare. It is a scruffy source, containing the Contratenor part (Tenor 2) of ‘Plorans’ of the *Incipit lamentatio* onwards, followed by the Cantus part (Alto) of the preceding music. Twenty-five folios later there is the complete Cantus part of the *De lamentatione*. The presence of textual incipits only suggests that this source might have intended to be used for instrumental performance.

GB-CF MS D/DP Z6/1 (**E**), GB-Ob MSS Tenbury 341-44 (**F**), GB-Ob MSS Tenbury 1469-71 (**G1**) and GB-Ob MS Tenbury 369-73 (**G2**) all originate from the household of the Norfolk gentleman Edward Paston (note the geographical proximity to **A**). An influential amateur musician, patron and collector of music manuscripts, he had connections to Byrd’s circle through the composer’s neighbour and patron Sir John Petre, with whom he shared Catholic sympathies and to whom he gave source **E** as a gift. Of this set copied c.1590, only the bass book survives; Philip Brett suggests that it was copied, as well as source **F**, by Paston’s secretary William Corbett.<sup>8</sup> **F**, a complete set of five partbooks, was copied around the early seventeenth century. Certainly **E** is the finer of the two—its beauty and precision, compared to **F**’s inconsistency and carelessness in matters of accidentals and text underlay, indeed reflect its conception as a presentation gift. Despite the untidiness of these sources, they can be helpful for their greater use of accidentals, often left to the musicians’ discretion in the earlier sources (a problem discussed below).

**G1** and **G2**, as well as US-NYp MSS Drexel 4180-84 (**H1**) and GB-Lbl Add. MSS 17792-96 (**H2**), are not currently digitised and were therefore unavailable for this edition. In his very good edition of the Lamentations, however, Philip Brett listed some major discrepancies in these sources regarding accidentals, which I have included in the notes of this edition as the following numbers:

*Incipit lamentatio*: to be listed in a forthcoming revision (as of December 2021).

*De lamentatione*: notes 50, 69, 70, 71, 107, 109, 122.

**G1**, known as the Harmsworth manuscript, survives as three partbooks out of a set of originally five; **G2**, in the same hand, survives as a complete set of five. Both were written in the early seventeenth century and contain only *De lamentatio*. Sources **H1**, a complete set of six partbooks, and **H2**, a complete set of five—both in the same hand—come from the collection of John Merro, a singer at Gloucester Cathedral. May Hofman has suggested that **H2**, copied c. 1624-50, was partly copied from **H1**, in turn copied c.1615-25.<sup>9</sup>

The three partbooks GB-Cp MSS 35, 37, 44 (**I**) are from a set of seven (originally eight) partbooks known as the Latter Caroline set, currently kept at Peterhouse College, Cambridge. They were copied by diverse hands c. 1625-40 and assembled shortly thereafter

<sup>5</sup> Roger Bray, ‘John Baldwin’, *Music & Letters* 56 (1975): 55-9.

<sup>6</sup> *Idem*, 56-7.

<sup>7</sup> David Mateer, ‘John Baldwin and Changing Concepts of Text Underlay’ in J. Morehen (ed.), *English Choral Practice 1400-1600* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1996), 143-160, at 148.

<sup>8</sup> Philip Brett, ‘Edward Paston (1550-1630): A Norfolk Gentleman and his Musical Collection’, *Transactions of the Cambridge Bibliographical Society* 4/1 (1964): 51-69, at 57-8.

<sup>9</sup> May Hofman, ‘The Survival of Latin Sacred Music by English Composers 1485-1610’ (unpublished doctoral thesis, University of Oxford, 1977), Vol. II: 123-8.

for liturgical use. Annotations, along with the source's scruffy appearance, bear witness to its primarily practical, as opposed to antiquarian, purpose. The two Lamentations are presented together as a single piece divided by a simple barline. The hand is untidy, and details of text underlay are often unclear or muddled. Nonetheless, the musical notation itself is generally detailed. The bass part only survives to bar 122.

Table 1: list of sixteenth and seventeenth sources containing Tallis' two Lamentation settings.

Source	Date	Reference	Type	Page/Folio
Sadler PBs (A)	c.1565-85	GB-Ob MS Mus. e. 1	Tr	37v
		GB-Ob MS Mus. e. 2	M	36r
		GB-Ob MS Mus. e. 3	A	36v
		GB-Ob MS Mus. e. 4	T	33v
		GB-Ob MS Mus. e. 5	B	33r
Bassus (B)	c.1575	GB-Ob MS Tenbury 1464	B	59v
Baldwin PBs (C)	c.1575-81	GB-Och MS Mus. 979	S	Nos. 41,42
		GB-Och MS Mus. 980	D	
		GB-Och MS Mus. 981	Ct	
		GB-Och MS Mus. 983	B	
Cantus PB copied by Hugh Geare (D)	c.1585-90	GB-Lbl Add. MS 32377	C, CT	27r, 62v
Bass PB, Paston collection (E)	c.1590	GB-CF MS D/DP Z6/1	B	42r
Paston collection (F)	early C17th	GB-Ob MS Tenbury 341	S	26v
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 342	Q and Sx	30v
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 343	Ct	28v
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 344	T	29v
Paston Collection "Harmsworth MS" (G1) Up a 5 <sup>th</sup> , Cantus up a 7 <sup>th</sup>	early C17th	GB-Ob MS Tenbury 1469	C	28r
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 1470	A	
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 1471	B	
Paston collection (G2) (same scribe as G1) Up a 5 <sup>th</sup> .	early C17th	GB-Ob MS Tenbury 369	S	5r
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 370	M	
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 371	Q	
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 372	T	
		GB-Ob MS Tenbury 373	B	
John Merro (2) (H1)	c.1615-25	US-NYp MS Drexel 4180	C	70r
		US-NYp MS Drexel 4181	A	69v
		US-NYp MS Drexel 4182	T	72r
		US-NYp MS Drexel 4183	B	66r
		US-NYp MS Drexel 4184	Q	47r
John Merro (1) (H2) (same scribe as H1)	1624-c.1650	GB-Lbl Add. MS 17792	C	169
		GB-Lbl Add. MS 17793	A	174
		GB-Lbl Add. MS 17794	T	174
		GB-Lbl Add. MS 17795	Q	162
		GB-Lbl Add. MS 17796	B	166
Peterhouse PBs, latter Caroline set (I)	c.1625-40	GB-Cp MS 35	TD	113v
		GB-Cp MS 37	BD	N3v
		GB-Cp MS 44	MD	P2



## Editorial Method

This edition does not aim to be an *Urtext* of any sort. Such a thing, especially with this music, is an impossible and uninteresting goal: the inherent flexibilities and ambiguities of mensural notation, as well as an unclear and complicated textual tradition, make it so. What we have is a collection of sources that present what the Lamentations once were in the eyes of their users, which, interestingly, may differ because of differences in the sources' age, purpose and location, and whose interpretation by a modern editor may in any case differ from that of their copyists. To translate these encoded interpretations into a different, more prescriptive notational system is complicated, especially so if the intention is to produce one fixed text.<sup>10</sup> Such a process inevitably places a large degree of agency and responsibility on the editor, who must first read and interpret the texts, and then sift between the variants in order to choose which to include in the final score and which to include in the notes, if indeed any are provided.

There is more than one way to do this. John Caldwell, among others, has written that in cases of many variant sources, with none directly ascribable to the composer, it can be best to proceed from 'a single representative source', ultimately presenting 'a version which can be shown to have been current at some particular time and place'.<sup>11</sup> In the case of these Lamentations, however, where none of the sources is distinct enough, and we know little about their creation and use, this solution is both impractical and unappealing. Furthermore, this 'best source' approach fails to engage critically with other sources, and ignores a fundamental reality of such works: that they are historically and geographically fluid.

Nevertheless, **A** and **C**, being the oldest and most complete sources, are the ones most closely followed in this edition. It is possible, however, that there may be corruptions in these sources that are not present in the other sources. This edition is therefore an attempt at *recension* at heart: that is, it tries to reconstruct the earliest recoverable version of the work while sorting through the different textual layers. While it is true that the end product might represent a patchwork version that never in fact existed, it is the hope of the editor that it is as close as we can currently get to an 'original', removing what appear to be errors and clearly identifiable idiosyncrasies in any of the sources. In cases of discrepancy, the prime considerations have been the age of the sources and concordance with other manuscripts: preference is generally given to older and more widespread readings. Occasionally these two criteria are in conflict, however, in which case I have generally preferred older readings and have tried to apply the maxim of *lectio difficilior* where relevant—i.e. to reject variants that appear to be simplifications, probably through corruption. Only in the few cases of total ambiguity have I felt it necessary to appeal to my own (subjective) musical judgement. In all cases, however, variants are always provided in the notes—this is not only so that the reader may feel free to disagree with my choices, even following a single source if they prefer, but to present the two Lamentation settings as flexible entities in time, with the idiosyncrasies and problems of each source laid out in full to the reader.

Accidentals are the most problematic issue. When I have judged that an inconsistency between sources is because obvious chromatic inflexions have been left as *musica ficta* or perhaps omitted by mistake in one source, but included in another, I have

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<sup>10</sup> See Margaret Bent, 'Editing Early Music: The Dilemma of Translation', *Early Music* 22/3 (August 1994), 373-392.

<sup>11</sup> John Caldwell, *Editing Early Music* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1985), 2; Philip Brett, 'Text, Context and the Early Music Editor', in Nicholas Kenyon (ed.), *Authenticity and Early Music: A Symposium* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988), 83-114.

simply written an on-stave accidental. If this is the case for a prolonged stretch of music, I have avoided clutter by marking this with a single footnote per part.

However, it is often unclear whether this is the case—perhaps no accidental indeed means no accidental and is therefore to be treated as a genuine variant. In such cases of ambiguity, I have used the principles described above to choose a primary reading, and have noted the variant, often referring to earlier footnotes for context.

Accidentals are also problematic because it is sometimes unclear how long the accidental is meant to last. Generally, a single accidental is used for an entire phrase or short melodic gesture in the sources—in cases where such a phrase or melodic gesture crosses a barline in transcription, I have simply restated the accidental in the following bar.

A related issue is that of signature accidentals, which are also inconsistent among the sources. Because the notion of a modern ‘key signature’ isn’t relevant to many of the primary sources, especially the earlier ones, signature accidentals are often inconsistent between parts and even within a single part, frequently appearing and disappearing on different staves and even halfway through a staff. The reason why this is the case is worthy of further study. For the purposes of this edition, which include ease of reading, the key signatures have been standardised, following the most obvious modal characteristics of the music.

Text underlay is similarly problematic, and this edition is in this regard because of its critical engagement with variant textual readings. I have been open about ambiguous readings and have often commented ‘uncl.’ where the text-setting is very unclear. This is often the case because the text was frequently copied into the source before the musical notation. Spellings have been modernised and standardised. Original note values are retained. All barlines, apart from the double barlines at the end of sections (present in some sources), are editorial. Editorial *ficta* accidentals are placed above the note. Cautionary accidentals, in round parentheses, are also editorial. Ligatures are marked with square brackets, editorial text is provided in italics, and spellings-out of abbreviations are in square parenthesis.

*C.R.O. — Cambridge, September 2020 (revised December 2021)*

