

Chanson Louis XIII (Chanson des bougies)

Tu crois, ô beau soleil

Louis XIII, roi de France (1601-1643)

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-5. The vocal line is in treble clef with a common time signature. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a common time signature. The lyrics are: Tu crois, ô beau soleil, qu'à ton éclat rien n'est pareil, Ores que le ciel est gai du-rant ce gen-til mois de mai! De ses nou-vel-les pleurs l'au-b-e va ra-ni-mer les fleurs;

Musical score for the second system, measures 6-9. The vocal line continues in treble clef. The piano accompaniment continues in grand staff. The lyrics are: en cet ai-ma-ble temps que tu fais le prin- Les ro-ses vont fleu-rir, les lys é-pa-nou Mais que fait leur beau-té à mon coeur at-tris-

Musical score for the third system, measures 10-14. The vocal line continues in treble clef. The piano accompaniment continues in grand staff. The lyrics are: temps. Mais_ quoi, tu pâ-lis au-près ir. Mais_ que sont les lys aux yeux té quand des pleurs je lis aux yeux

14

d'A - ma - ryl - lis, lis,
d'A - ma - ryl - lis, lis.
d'A - ma - ryl - lis, lis.

Source: "Harmonie Universelle" by Marin Mersenne and "History of the Science and Practice of Music" by Sir John Hawkins. In the original the words are set to the soprano part. There is a distinct soprano part and an alto part on a second staff and a tenor and bass part on a third staff (with a baritone clef). These last four parts have been converted into a piano accompaniment. It seems unlikely that these parts were intended to be sung.

Mersenne gives a number of variations on the theme composed by the Sieur de la Barré, organist to the King and Queen.

The source for verses 2 and three of this song is the leaflet accompanying the recording of Gérard Souzay's performance of it (www.testament.uk.com) where it is described as "Chanson des Bougies".

Fritz Kreisler adapted the melody in his "Chanson Louis XIII and Pavane".