

Aristocratic Music and Dance in Medieval Europe

Music and the Human Experience with Professor Kattari

Development of music liturgy and notation

- Music liturgy and notation is music written down so that it can be played again
- **Periods of Developments**
 - o 470 A.D. -800 A.D. - Chants are learned orally and are simple.
 - 800 A.D. - Charlemagne wants to *standardize* all chants
 - o 900 A.D. - First music notated approximately
 - o 1200 A.D.? - Specific pitches are notated

Timeline of Medieval Secular Music

- 476 A.D. - 800 A.D. - Early Middle Ages
- 1000 A.D. - 1450 A.D. - Late Middle Ages
 - o Troubadours - Court singers in Southern France that sang about courtly love (1100 A.D. - 1300 A.D.)
 - Courtly love - desire for a woman that cannot be consummated because of social status.
 - "Can Vei La Lauzeta Mover" - Bernart Ventadorn (In-class example of troubadour song)
 - o Guillame de Machaut (1300-1377) - famous composer priest that worked for a king (not a troubadour)
 - Composed both sacred and secular songs
 - Known for rondeaus - songs with repeating refrain after stanzas

Medieval Instruments

- Bowed Strings - viol
- Winds - recorder
- Plucked Strings - gittern
- Struck Strings - dulcimer
- Percussion - drums

First Notated Instrumental Music (c. 1250)

- Estampie - couple dance music to fast triple meter
 - o France and Italy during 12th-14th centuries

Review Questions

Why don't we have notated secular music from the EARLY middle ages? It was expensive and tedious to write and record things down.

Why do you think we know more about court music than any other type of secular music in the Middle Ages? Because the courts had the time and money to write and record things down