Assignment 1

CHANT: NOTATION ASSIGNMENT

Review the Gradual *Viderunt Omnes* as edited by the Monks of Solesmes. (review: What day of the year is it sung on?)

Now find the Gradual *Viderunt Omnes* in two manuscripts containing the Mass:

1. A Cantatorium (a book of Mass music only containing the chants for soloists.) found in the monastery of Saint-Gall (Switzerland), manuscript (MS) 359.

    St. Gall 359: Catholic Church. *Cantatorium, IXe siècle, n°359 de la Bibliotheque de Saint-Gall: Paléographie Musicale.* Series 2, Vol. 2. Edited by DOM André Mocquereau. Éditions Herbert Lang & Cie Sa., 1968. (This manuscript is now available on-line in a beautiful facsimile, but you'll still need the library copy to know where to look in it.)

2. The notated Missal, MS VI-33 of Benevento (Italy).

    Benevento VI–33: *Le missel de Bénévent VI-33: Paléographie Musicale.* Series 1, Vol. 20. Edited by DOM Jacques Hourlier and DOM Jacques Froger. Peter Lang, 1983.

You can either use your knowledge of the liturgical year (where in these books would you find this chant?) or (easier) the tables at the beginning of the books to find these chants.

Once you have found your chants, you are going to make an edition of the three versions of the chant on three staves.

1. The Saint-Gall neumes, in their original notation, reproducing the original neumes as accurately as you can.

2. Benevento VI-33 in modern notation (not Solesmes notation). 5 lines, modern clefs, etc. Devise a way of notating which notes are ligated (connected), any other symbols which seem important, etc. You will probably *not* want to imply a specific rhythmic notation. Your transcription should be in the style of the Introit trope *Hodie cantandus est nobis* found in the Anthology.

3. The Solesmes version of *Viderunt Omnes*, rewritten as in #2 above.

Why are you doing this? What should you hope to learn?
Each medieval editor (or modern editor in the case of the Solesmes version) gives us an incomplete version of the chant. One version presents very clear pitches, another just shows where the music goes up and down. However, that version gives extra information such as "c" for celiter (go fast), etc. Some notes are different among different versions. But by making a composite version from three sources, we can get the best of all possible worlds and see how chant varied and changed over time.

In your edition, make sure that the chants align vertically as best you can so that simultaneous events happen at the same time. You should highlight significant differences among the versions verbally or in some neat manner. You do not have to do the verse, *Notum fecit,* though, technically, it is part of the gradual. NEATNESS definitely counts in this assignment.

You are **highly encouraged** to work together and help each other in this assignment—however each person must turn in her or his own edition.

Turn in your edition at the beginning of class on **9/21**. We will set aside some time for discussion this Thursday also, so you may want to get started soon so you can ask questions.

21M.220 Early Music
Fall 2010