

Instructions for Use

The Du Chemin project has developed a novel electronic interface that allows readers to move easily among several modes of inquiry that are essential to the process of discovery and study of this material. There are digital facsimiles, critical editions, and tools that reveal and enable editorial processes, both when the books were first published and today, as they are prepared for modern readers. These functions include:

Browse is the simplest mode. It allows users to page through high-quality scans of the albums.

- Click on Browse, then select one of the complete books from the list (available volumes are marked with an arrow at the left).
- Turn from page to page with the arrows at the top-center of the facsimile screen.
- The sets of double arrows move the reader directly to the start or finish of the superius-tenor partbook (ST) or the contratenor-bassus partbook (CB). The pagination found on each of Du Chemin's title corresponds to the pagination listed on the pull-down menu at the center. Use this pull- to jump directly to any page.
- While in Browse, click on any facsimile page to fill a new browser tab as a jpg file of that page. Further clicks on this jpg allow one additional level of magnification for closer inspection of the image.

Search allows users to apply various basic limits:

- Simple Search accepts a composer's surname (the full set of names is also available in the pull-down list under Advanced Search).
- Simple Search also allows search for single words or sequences of words in the INCIPITS of the poems. It does not yet include Boolean functions that allow combining names and words, or full text searching of poetic texts. These functions are available in the companion Ricercar project, *Catalogue de la Chanson française à la Renaissance*.
- Advanced Search allows limits by book, composer, text incipit, and literary source in various combinations. (For instance, selecting "Premier livre" and "Certon" returns all of the pieces in that book ascribed to that composer).
- Literary sources correspond to titles identified in the companion Ricercar project, *Catalogue de la Chanson française à la Renaissance*.

Results of Search provide links to various images and editions:

- From **Results of Search**, click on a text incipit to view a facsimile of the piece in 'four plus one' layout. The four voice-parts appear in small images

at the right; click on one voice to enlarge it at the left. This view also offers:

- **Magnification tool**, which allows close inspect of a given image at the left. Position the cursor over the facsimile at left to inspect it with the magnification tool (zoom in and out with up/down arrows; enlarge or restrict the area encompassed by the tool with the left/right arrows).
 - **Notice** at the top left, which opens a new window giving essential bibliographical information about the piece in question. Since some pages contain TWO compositions, it is important to check each **Notice** carefully.
 - **Download**, which captures a single page (jpg), the entire composition (pdf), or the entire book (pdf).
 - **Editions**, which leads to two related functions: "Transcription" downloads a complete modern edition (pdf). "Scorch File" opens a Sibelius Scorch version of the edition, which can be played on any browser (requires free Scorch plug-in--follow "Get Scorch" link). Editorial principles for the editions explained under the main **Learn** heading below.
- From **Results of Search**, "Text" to the right of each incipit links to the larger Ricercar database *Catalogue de la Chanson française à la Renaissance*, with complete transcriptions of poetic text, information on poetic form and rhyme, and literary concordances. This resource allows advanced text search features by words and strings of characters.
 - **Back to Results** and **New Search** return to earlier screens.

Learn leads to essays and related projects that put the facsimiles, editions, and books in context.

- Seven thematic **Commentaries** by Richard Freedman consider various aspects of the chansons, their texts, and the history of the Du Chemin series. An extensive bibliography and a set of brief bio-bibliographical sketches for each composer represented in the *Chansons nouvelles* round out these resources (all files pdf).
- **Editorial Guidelines** (pdf) explain the basic challenges and policies of modern editions. Other practical aspects of musical readership in the sixteenth century are considered in the Commentaries: "Practical and Theoretical Aspects of the Du Chemin Chansonniers."
- **Blank Sibelius Files** offer templates for use by students and others who are interested transcribe Du Chemin chansons (or other sixteenth-century polyphony) for themselves, using commercial music notation software like Sibelius.
- **Learn** also provides a point of entry to our workshop for the *reconstruction* of incomplete books and pieces through a new initiative, the *Atelier Virtuel de*

Restitution Polyphonique. In the case of the Du Chemin chansonniers, only one pair of voice-parts survive for the twelfth through sixteenth *Livres*. Using various annotation features, the restored compositions will cite comparable passages in extant works or concepts articulated in the extensive practical/theoretical literature of the day. The resource will thus open the work of reconstruction to scrutiny at various stages. Readers will of course be able to download (pdf) finished transcriptions for use in classroom or concert. But they will also be able to attempt their own reconstructions (based on the transcriptions of surviving voice parts that we provide). These Sibelius files also include musical commentaries explaining related works and theoretical concepts used in the realizations.

- **Learn** also leads to CESR projects centered on the literary texts of the chansons: *Catalogue de la Chanson française à la Renaissance* and *Les Chansons de Nicholas Du Chemin: Éditions des Textes*.
- **Collaborate** provides an electronic forum for the exchange of questions, ideas, or information by scholars, students, and performers. The main resource for this will be our Digital Du Chemin blog. Here users can contact the site team, and also connect with other users. The blog will also provide us with a crucial means of evaluating our work, and learning how to meet new challenges.