

Bois épais (bois épais) *Amadis*, 1684

US-BEm MS 777 (Menetou), no. 21, fol. 16r
LWV 63/30

The first system of the musical score is in 2/2 time and B-flat major. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a fermata over a dotted half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note Bb4. The lyrics "bois es - pais re - dou - ble ..." are written below the notes. The keyboard accompaniment (bass clef) starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of chords and moving lines in the left hand.

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The second system continues the piece, starting at measure 6. The vocal line has a fermata over a dotted half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note Bb4. The keyboard accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in the left hand.

The third system starts at measure 11. The vocal line has a fermata over a dotted half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note Bb4. The keyboard accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in the left hand.

The fourth system starts at measure 17. The vocal line has a fermata over a dotted half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a half note Bb4. The keyboard accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in the left hand.

Source

US-BEm: Berkeley, University of California, Jean Gray Hargrove Music Library, MS 777 (Paris, post ca. 1689).

Eighty-seven arrangements entered by two or three unidentified French hands (Hand A, A', and B). Hands A and A' (which could be same as Hand A) are competent. Hand B is the same as Hand I of *Parville*, Hand A of *LaBarre-6*, and Hand A of *LaBarre-11*.

Menetou is not only the largest source of keyboard arrangements of Lully, but is also unique in that the pieces are by and large ordered in chronological sequence. The manuscript's connection with Françoise-Charlotte de Senneterre de Mennetoud, daughter of Henry-François, Duc de La Ferté (1657–1703) and Marie-Gabrielle-Angélique de La Motte (1654–1726), through the six “airs sérieux de mademoiselle de menetou” (fols. 48v–52r) suggests that the Lully pieces might have originated as a suitable repertory for the growing number of aristocratic female harpsichordists, of which *Menetou* is a fine example. Alongside the Lully transcriptions are original harpsichord pieces by Lebègue and D'Anglebert, vocal extracts from Lully's operas, and airs by Michel Lambert and Mademoiselle de Menetou.

Literature: Alan Curtis, “Musique française classique à Berkeley,” *Revue de musicologie* 56:2 (1970), 123–64; Gustafson 1979, 1:114–5, 3:137–73; Gustafson-Fuller 1990, 394–5; David Fuller, “Les arrangements pour clavier des œuvres de Lully,” in *Jean-Baptiste Lully: Actes du colloque Saint-Germain-en-Laye, Heidelberg 1987*, ed. Jérôme de La Gorce and Herbert Schneider (Laaber: Laaber-Verlag, 1990), 472–3; Harris 2009, 2:160–1.

Editions: Harris 2009, two pieces (nos. 114, 117); Chung 2004, fourteen pieces (nos. 1, 4, 5, 13, 14–5, 57, 61, 97, 98, 99, 101, 107, 115); WLSCM, sixty-five pieces (nos. 2–3, 6, 8–10, 16–8, 20–2, 24, 27–33, 35–40, 42–56, 58–60, 62, 83–5, 87, 89, 90–4, 96, 100, 103–4, 112–4, 116–8).

Editorial Remarks

Text between staves (“bois espais redouble ...”) omitted in this edition.

Performance Notes

In the seventeenth century, the notation is under-prescriptive by modern standard and some elements of the performance may only be partially indicated or not indicated at all. Generally speaking, the performer has the discretion to supply in performance much that is not indicated in the source, such as by adding ornaments as well as melodic and rhythmic fillers, by spreading chords in a variety of ways, by embellishing the cadences, and sometimes even by enriching the texture with points of imitation. The modern performer can take lessons from D'Anglebert, who re-edited a selection of his autograph pieces

for publication in 1689.¹ The performance attitude and elusive nature of the seventeenth-century French repertory has been exhaustively discussed by David Fuller, Ronald Broude, Bruce Gustafson, and others.²

The player can refer to the table below for guidance on the interpretation of ornament symbols commonly found in manuscript sources.

Tremblement *Pincé*

Port de voix

Cadence *Coulé* *Harpegement*

Further advice on the rhythmic convention of *notes inégales* and other performance practice issues can be found in the “Introduction”.

No. 21 (fol. 16r, Hand A'), bois épais (F) [Bois épais from *Amadis* (1684) LWV 63/30 (F)]
M. 9 lh time signature missing

1. See Chung, “Lully, D’Anglebert and the Transmission of 17th-Century French Harpsichord Music,” 586–92.

2. For example, see Ronald Broude. “Composition, Performance, and Text in Solo Music of the French Baroque,” *Text: An Interdisciplinary Annual of Textual Studies* 15 (2002): 25.