

Amici di Via Gabina Traveling Fellowship

Applicant: Megan Wright

Senior, McMurtry College, Music History and Viola Performance Major

Travel Ambitions:

My primary ambition is to solidify my senior thesis by visiting archival holdings in Italy. Certain manuscripts are needed to solidify the speculations of my thesis, which are only found in various Italian institutions and libraries.

Detailed Research Goals:

My thesis specifically proposes a connection between the 1482 canonization ceremony of Saint Bonaventure under Pope Sixtus IV (founder of the Vatican Library and builder of the Sistine Chapel) and the motet *Qui Velatus Facie Fuisti* by notable composer of the Sistine Chapel Josquin des Prez.

Josquin des Prez is one of the most important figures of Western music. Unfortunately, much of Josquin's life is shrouded in mystery and obscurity. Any documental support that Josquin's motet was performed as a part of Saint Bonaventure's canonization ceremony or was at least related could fill a vital gap of Josquin's whereabouts in the 1480s. This would be a groundbreaking discovery and would capture the attention of the musicological and theological worlds.

I have some musical and historical evidence to support my claim of Josquin's connection with Pope Sixtus IV and Bonaventure's canonization but have only been able to speculate. I need better documental evidence to continue and solidify my research. Most documents that could lead to progress in my research are located only in Italy.

My travels would not only solidify my musicology and historical research, but also give me an opportunity to enhance my studies in architecture (such as visiting the Sistine Chapel, performance spaces, and cathedrals), the Italian and Latin languages, the Italian and Franco-Flemish migration cultures, paleography, and the application process for visiting research scholars to learning institutions.

Proposed Itinerary:

(1-3 days in each location)

Mantua

- State Archive of Mantua, Gonzaga Family Archives
(Cardinal Francesco Gonzaga letters are located here. They contain possible critical information regarding Sixtus IV's travels. Possible Josquin connection on these travels and information on Bonaventure's canonization ceremony)

Rome

- Biblioteca «Paolo VI» - Pontificia Facoltà di Scienze dell'Educazion
(Di Fonzo "IL processo di canonizzazione" is only housed here)
- Vatican Library
(some Josquin works preserved in manuscripts in the archives of the papal choir, also Bonaventure, Opera, Sixti V pont. max iussu diligentissime emendata, 7 vols. Rome: Ex typ. Vaticana, 1588-96), VII. following p. 844, "Acta Canonizationis S. Bonaventure" by JUD)

Milan

- State Archives of Milan
(Reports of the Bishop of Parma, S. Sacramorus are located here, including accounts of Sixtus IV's travels to avoid the plague)

Florence

- State Archives, Florence
(Several of Sixtus IV's papal briefs are located here)
- College of St. Bonaventure, Ad Claras Aquas
(publishing center of the order of Friars Minor)

Venice

- Main printing location of Petrucci Publishing, main publisher of Josquin's music, probable printing location of Josquin's surviving publication of *Qui Velatus Facie*
- Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana

Budget:

- Airfare: \$3,000
- Lodging: \$1000
- Food: \$375
- Ground transportation: \$375
- Library/museum entrance and extraneous fees: \$250