Foundations of English Opera

Elizabeth Kenny University of Southampton, 12.02.08

Why stays the Bridegroom to invade her? Ferrabosco, A. Ayres (London 1609)



Why stays the bridegroom? Christ Church Mus. 439.

For the image, see Elizabeth Kenny, 'The uses of lute song: texts, contexts and pretexts for 'historically informed" performance'. *Early Music* 36 (2008), 285-300, at p. 296.

Ornamentation models

- Simple original + additions = variant interpretation
- 2. Ornamented original
 additions = variant
 simple version



The Masque of Moments, Turner Sims Concert Hall 15.01.08

Henry Lawes, 'Amarillis by a spring', autograph BL Add. Ms. 53723; Bodleian Ms Don.c.57. By permission.

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National identity

To the Italian music is a means of self-expression, or rather of self-intensification; to the Englishman music is a thing apart, a message from another world. The Italian singer creates the music that he utters, or at least appears to create it; the English singer is a sensitive medium through which music is made audible. Music for the Italian is the exaggeration of personality – for the Englishman its annihilation.

E.J. Dent, Foundations of English opera (Cambridge, 1928)