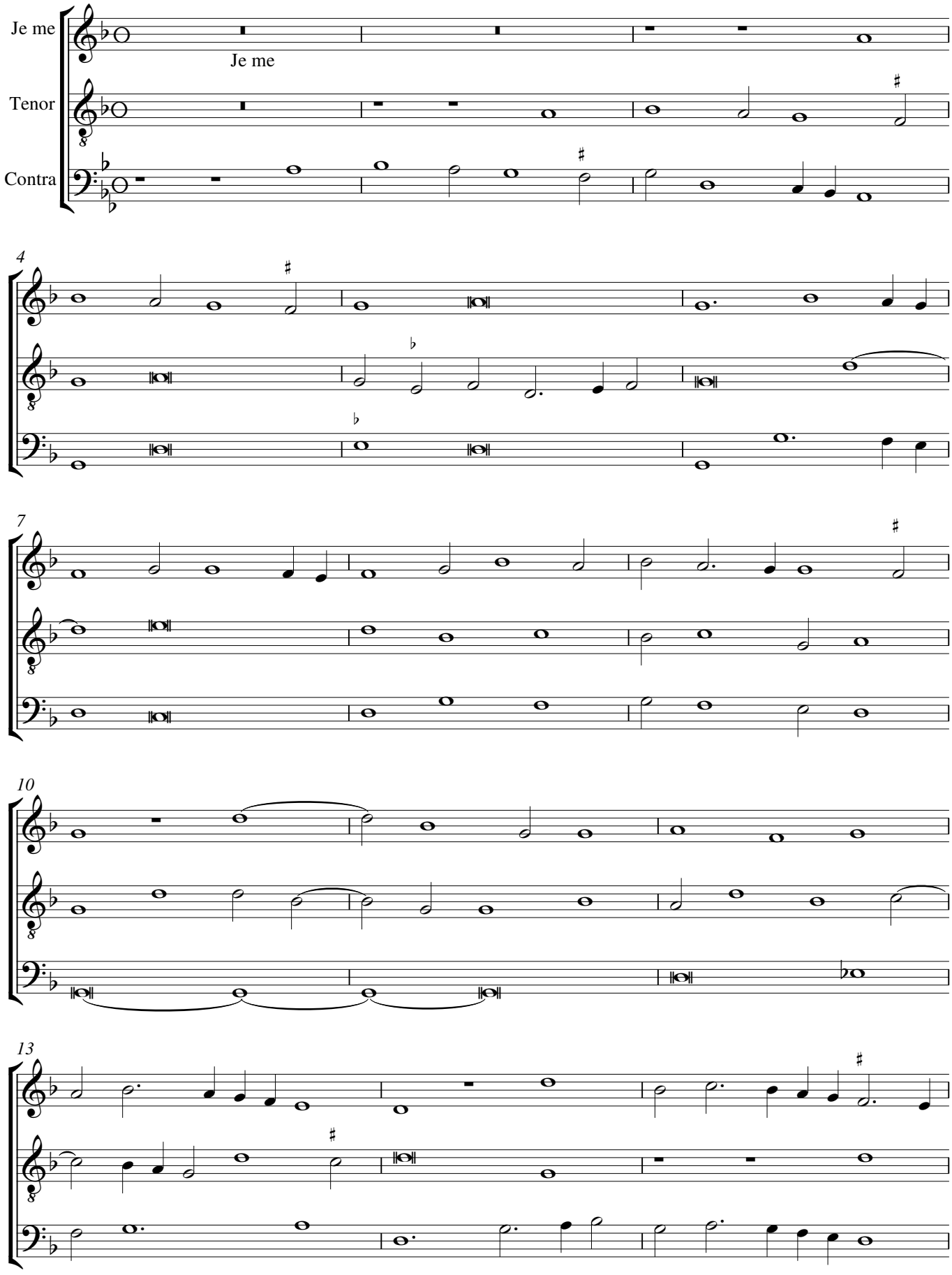
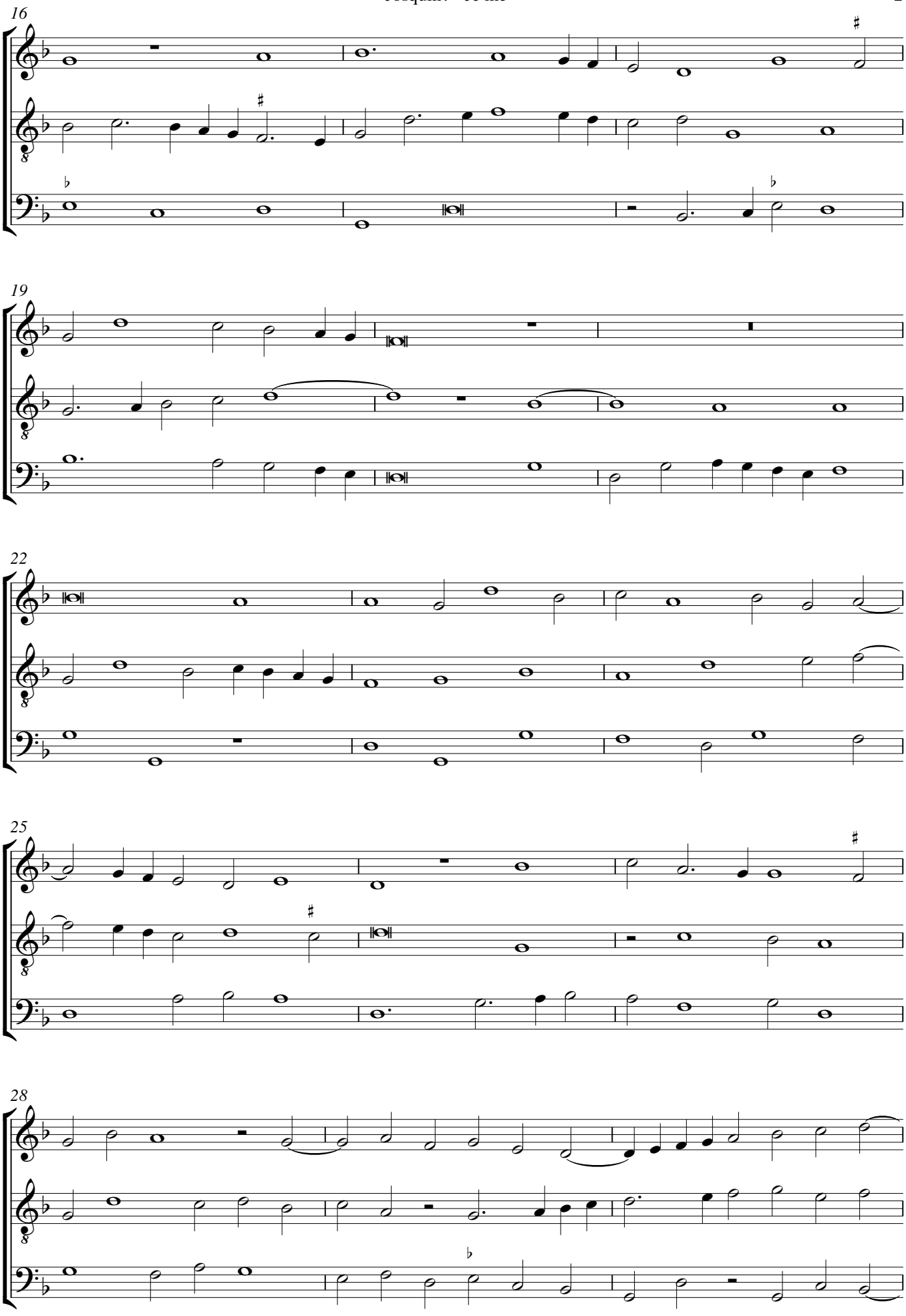
Je me

Josquin Desprez (?) (ca 1450 - Condé-sur-l'Escaut 1521)

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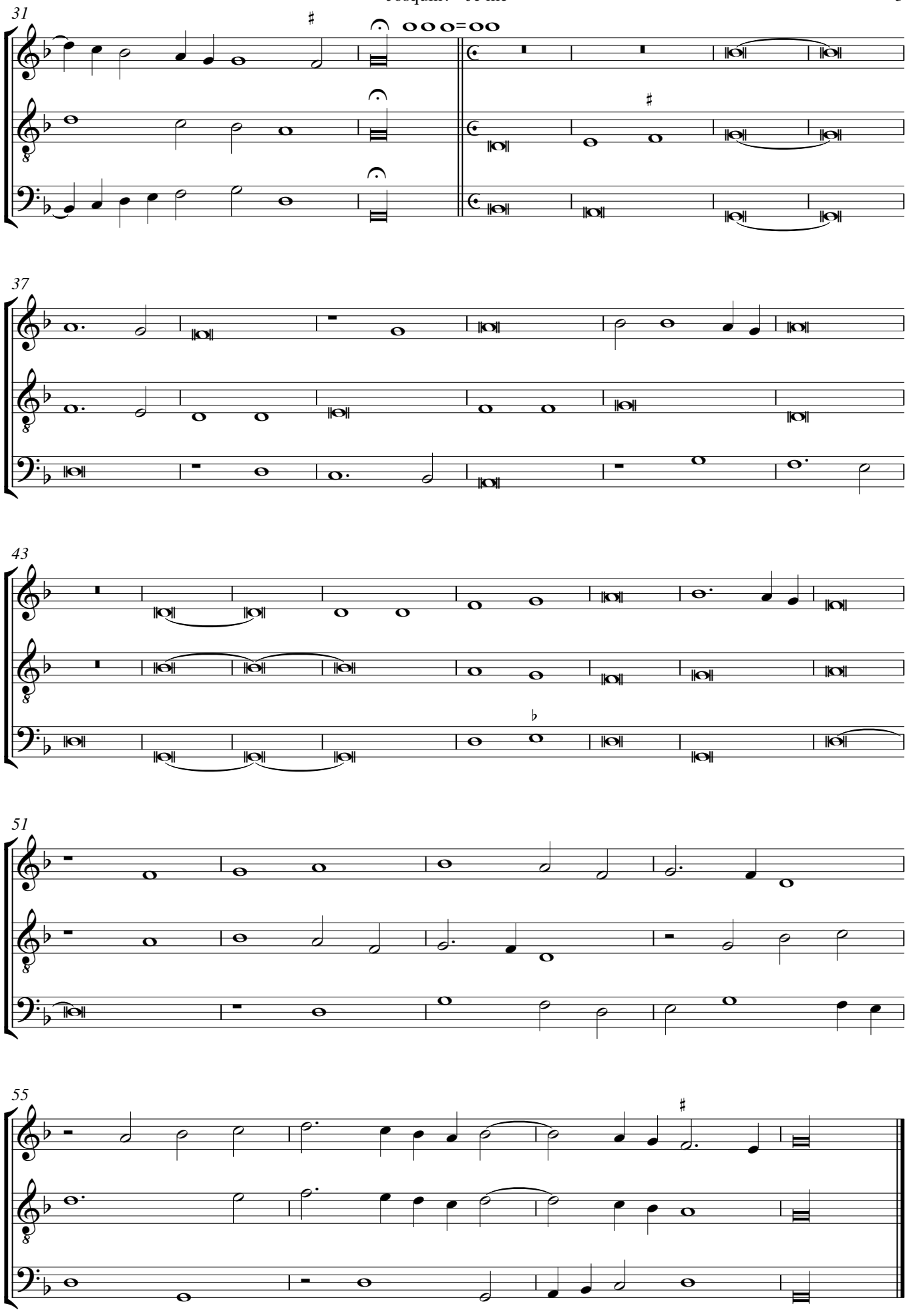
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Critical notes

I edited this piece from a microfilm of the ms. Florence BNC Magl. XIX 178, fol. 10v – 11.
The original clefs are C1, C4 and F4. The Contra has flat key signatures at F, B and b.
I indicated colorated breves by brackets. The ms. is not consequent in using them, for pointed semibreves are used, presumably without difference with colorated breves.
The ms. leaves space for the initials J of Je me and for the T en C of Tenor and Contra.
NJE includes it as nr *27.17, and considers it as presumably not authentic for stilistic reasons; besides, the manuscript contains several pieces wrongly ascribed to Josquin.
According to NJE there is a Dutch song on the same melody: Ic ben so nau bedwonghen, corresponding with a French text set by Johannes Ghiselin Verbonnet: Je suis si trestourte, both meaning: I am so distressed. NJE reconstructed the title as Je [me] suis trestourte. The second part possibly had the title A mon amy.
The ms. contains several errors, which are easy to emend. I have no reason to do that otherwise than NJE did:
T 12,1 g corrected to a
C 16,1 f corrected to e
C 23,1 c corrected to d
C 40-41,1 pointed brevis: point changed to a rest
S 46,2 c' corrected to d'
T 54,2 a corrected to g
S 58,1 f' corrected to g'.
I tried to add editorial accidentals as least as possible.
Arnold den Teuling, Assen, December 8th 2014.