

# Listening Guide

## Machaut: *Puis qu'en oubli (Since I am forgotten)*

- DATE OF WORK:** Mid-14th century
- GENRE:** Polyphonic chanson, 3 voices
- POEM:** Rondeau by the composer (with 2-line refrain)
- MUSICAL FORM:** 2 short musical sections, **A** and **B**, repeated as follows:  
**A-B-a-A-a-b-A-B** (capital letters indicate refrain text)

**WHAT TO LISTEN FOR:** Low range—all 3 parts for men's voices.  
 2 short sections of music (**A-B**), repeated in set scheme (rondeau).  
 Opening refrain text (2 lines of poetry) repeated in middle and at end.  
 Slow triple meter, with subtle rhythmic movement and syncopations.  
 Open, hollow cadences at ends of phrases.  
 3-part polyphonic texture.

Top-line melody of **A** section, with refrain text:

Top-line melody of **B** section, with refrain text:

	TEXT	MUSICAL FORM	TRANSLATION
Refrain	Puis qu'en oubli sui de vous, dous amis, Vie amoureuse et joie a Dieu commant.	<b>A</b> <b>B</b>	Since I am forgotten by you, sweet friend, I bid farewell to a life of love and joy.
Verse	Mar vi le jour que m'amour en vous mis;	<b>a</b>	Unlucky was the day I placed my love in you;
Partial refrain	Puis qu'en oubli sui de vous, dous amis.	<b>A</b>	Since I am forgotten by you, sweet friend.
Verse	Mais ce tenray que je vous ay promis: C'est que jamais n'aray nul autre amant.	<b>a</b> <b>b</b>	But what was promised you I will sustain: That I shall never have any other love.
Refrain	Puis qu'en oubli sui de vous, dous amis, Vie amoureuse et joie a Dieu commant.	<b>A</b> <b>B</b>	Since I am forgotten by you, sweet friend, I bid farewell to a life of love and joy.