Toutes les nuits

Clément Janequin

ed. Matthew Oltman
A principal composer of the so-called “Parisian” chanson, Clément Janequin (1485-1558) is best known today for his chansons employing lengthy and complex passages of onomatopoeia such as Le chant des oiseaux (The Song of the Birds), Les cris de Paris (The cries of Paris) and La bataille (The Battle). Most of his chansons compositions, numbering over 250, are narrative or programmatic in nature with music that is primarily concerned with text declamation. Toutes les nuits, however, is a rare lyric chanson that sets the melancholy text in an evocative and sensitive way. Even though Janequin’s music was widely published and achieved substantial popularity during his own lifetime, he was never regularly employed in any major cathedral or court. Much of his life was lived under financial duress, leading to strained relations with his extended family members. As a result, Janequin’s will famously left the contents of his small estate to charity and his housekeeper.

- Matthew Oltman

Tou-tes les nuits tu m'es pré-sen-te
[ˈtu tə le nɥi ty mɛ prɛ zɑ tɔ]
Par son-ge doux, par son-ge doux et gra-ci-eux.
[par sɔ̃ ʒə du par sɔ̃ ʒə du e gra si ɔ]
Mais tous les jours tu m'es ab-sen-te
[mɛ tu le ʒur ty mɛ zap sə tɔ]
Qui m’es re-gretz, qui m’es re-gretz fort en-nuy-eux.
[ki mɛ ʁə gre ki mɛ ʁə gre fɔ̃ rɑ nɥi ɔ]
Puis donc que la nuit me vaut mieux
[pu ʁɛ dɔ lod la nɥi mɔ vo mjɔ]
Et que je n'ai bien que par son-ge.
[e kɔ ʒɔ ne bjɛ kɔ par sɔ ʒɔ]
Dor-mez de jour
[do me dɔ ʒur]
Ô pau-vres yeux!
[o po vʁə zjɔ]
A-fin que sans ces-se je son-ge.
[afɛ kɔ sæ ʁɛ sɔ ʒɔ sɔ ʒɔ]
**Toutes les nuits**

*for Dr. Robert Larsen*

*and the Simpson College Madrigal Singers*

Clément Janequin (1485 - 1558)

Ed. by Matthew Oltman

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**Soprano**

\[ \text{Toutes les nuits tu m'es présent -} \]

\[ \text{Mais tous les jours tu m'es absent -} \]

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**Alto**

\[ \text{Toutes les nuits tu m'es présent -} \]

\[ \text{Mais tous les jours tu m'es absent -} \]

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**Tenor**

\[ \text{Toutes les nuits tu m'es présent -} \]

\[ \text{Mais tous les jours tu m'es absent -} \]

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**Bass**

\[ \text{Toutes les nuits tu m'es présent -} \]

\[ \text{Mais tous les jours tu m'es absent -} \]

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**Every night you show yourself to me in sweet and graceful dreams.**

**But every day you are gone from me, which I strongly and troublesomely regret.**
It is therefore why I treasure more highly the night
and that I only do well by dreaming.
de jour Ô pauvres yeux! Afin que sans cesse
je songe. Dormez de jour, dormez
sanse je songe. Dormez de
se je songe, afin que sans cesse je songe. Dor

Sleep away the day, oh my poor eyes
So that finally I may forever dream.
de jour Ô pauvres yeux! Afin que sans cesse je songe, a fin que sans cesse je songe.
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