

Updates and Outcomes from the Guatemalan Digitization and Encoding Project



Martha E. Thomae, Julie E. Cumming, and Ichiro Fujinaga
McGill University

MEC/TEI Joint Conference: Encoding Cultures
08 September 2023

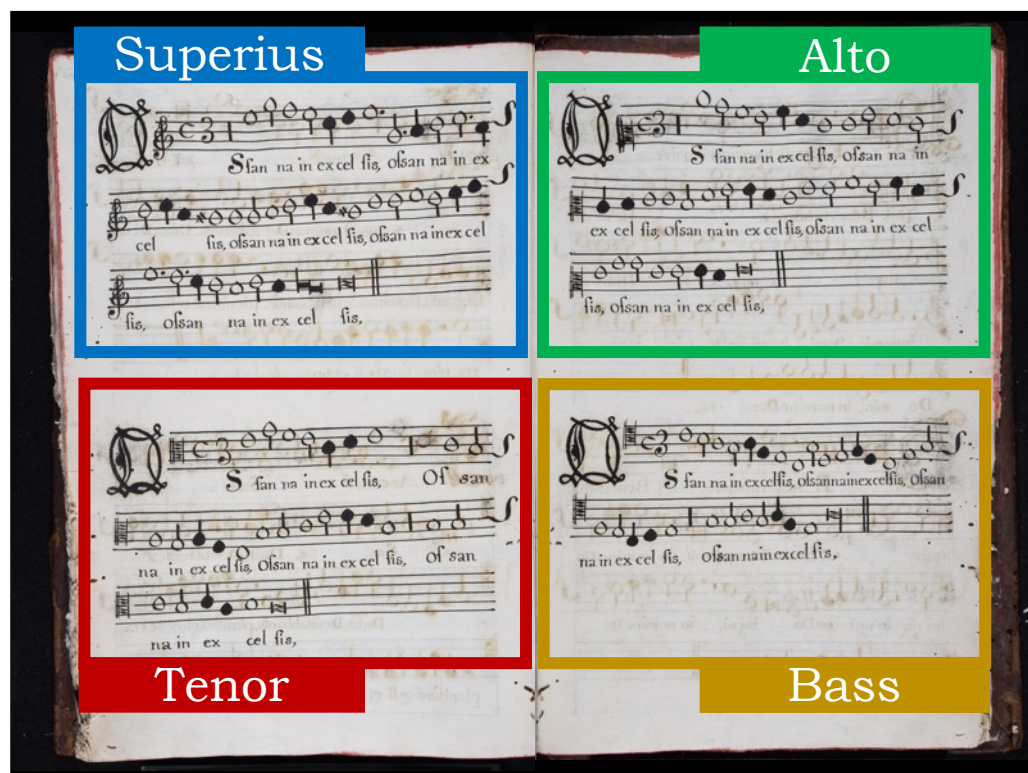
Introduction: The GuatC Collection

Collection of six polyphonic choirbooks, held at the *Archivo Histórico Arquidiocesano de Guatemala* (Archdiocesan Historical Archive of Guatemala, AHAG) in Guatemala City.



Introduction: The GuatC Collection

Collection of six polyphonic choirbooks, held at the *Archivo Histórico Arquidiocesano de Guatemala* (Archdiocesan Historical Archive of Guatemala, AHAG) in Guatemala City.



- Manuscripts
- Large dimensions
 - Average folio size = 30 cm x 45 cm
 - Book 6, size = 21.5 cm x 30 cm
- Voices in choirbook format
- And in mensural notation

Introduction: The GuatC Collection

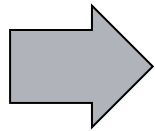
- Copied in the 17th and 18th centuries
- Repertoire: mostly 16th c. polyphonic music
- Document a continuous performance tradition of sacred choral music from the Renaissance through the 1800s
- Good for studying the transmission of music from Europe to Latin America

Introduction: The Project

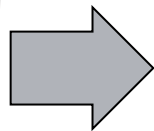
- **Goal:** Preserve and increase access to this music corpus by using digitization and music-encoding technologies
- **Pilot project:** The first choirbook (GuatC 1) → Book of Masses



Manuscript



Digital images
of the mensural pieces



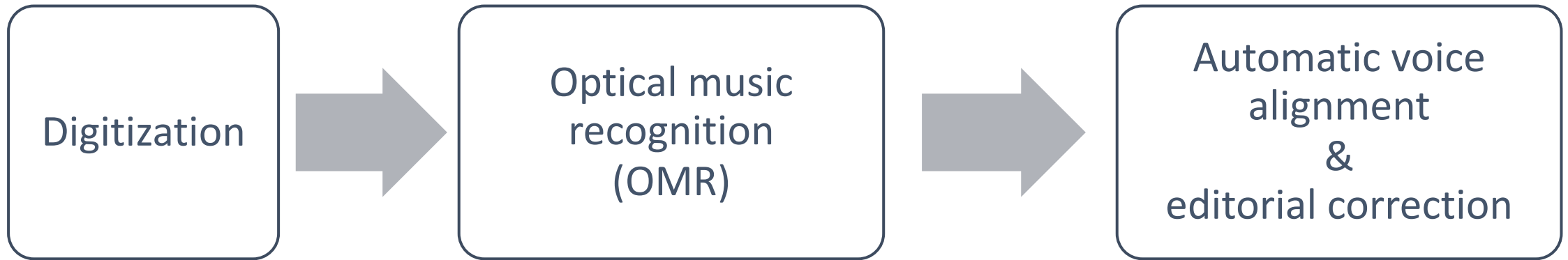
MEI Score
interpreted durations,
an issue in mensural notation

playback

automatic
transcription into
modern values

comparison to
concordant sources

Methodology: Three-Step Process



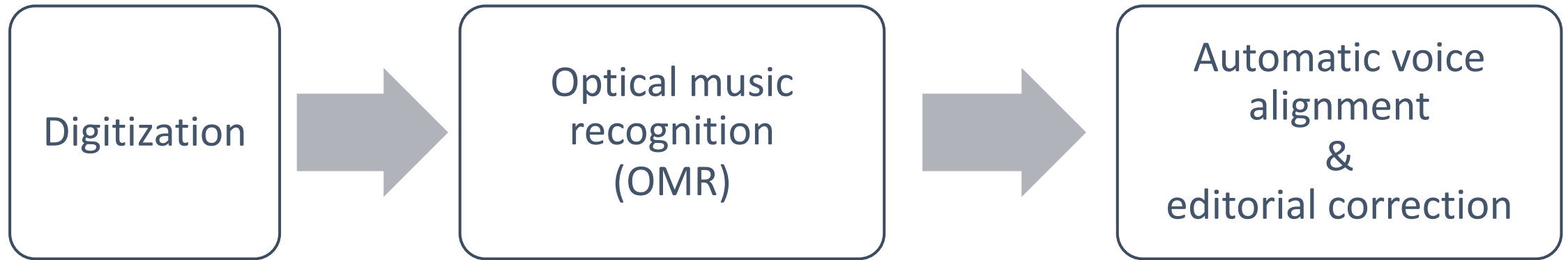
Manuscript

Superius
Altus
Tenor
Bassus

Os - san - na - in - ex - cel - sis

MEI Score file
interpreted durations

Methodology: Three-Step Process



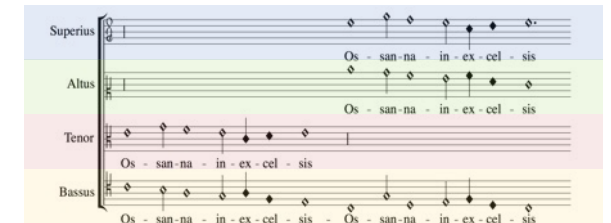
Manuscript



Digital images

```
<mei>
<music>
<staff n="1">
<clef line="2" shape="G"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<dot/>
<note dur="minima" pname="c" oct="5"/>
<ligature form="recta">
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="4"/>
</ligature>
<note dur="brevis" pname="b" oct="4"/>
</staff>
</music>
</mei>
```

MEI Parts file
encodes the **symbols** in each
part/voice of the images



MEI Score file
interpreted durations
(i.e., *alteration & imperfection*)

Methodology: Three-Step Process



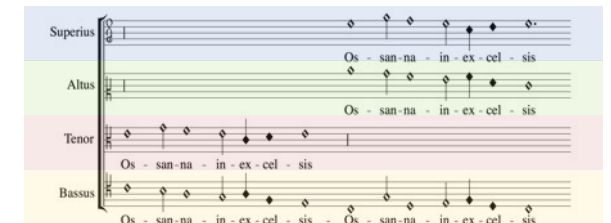
Manuscript



Digital images

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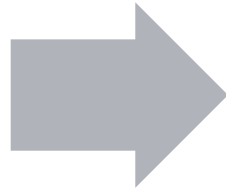


MEI Score file
interpreted durations
(i.e., *alteration & imperfection*)

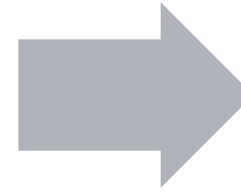
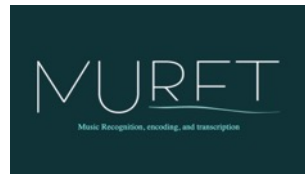
Digitization

Do-it-yourself (DIY) book scanner

Digitization



Optical music recognition
(OMR)



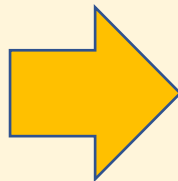
Automatic voice alignment
&
editorial correction

MEASURING POLYPHONY

DIGITAL ENCODINGS OF LATE MEDIEVAL MUSIC



Manuscript

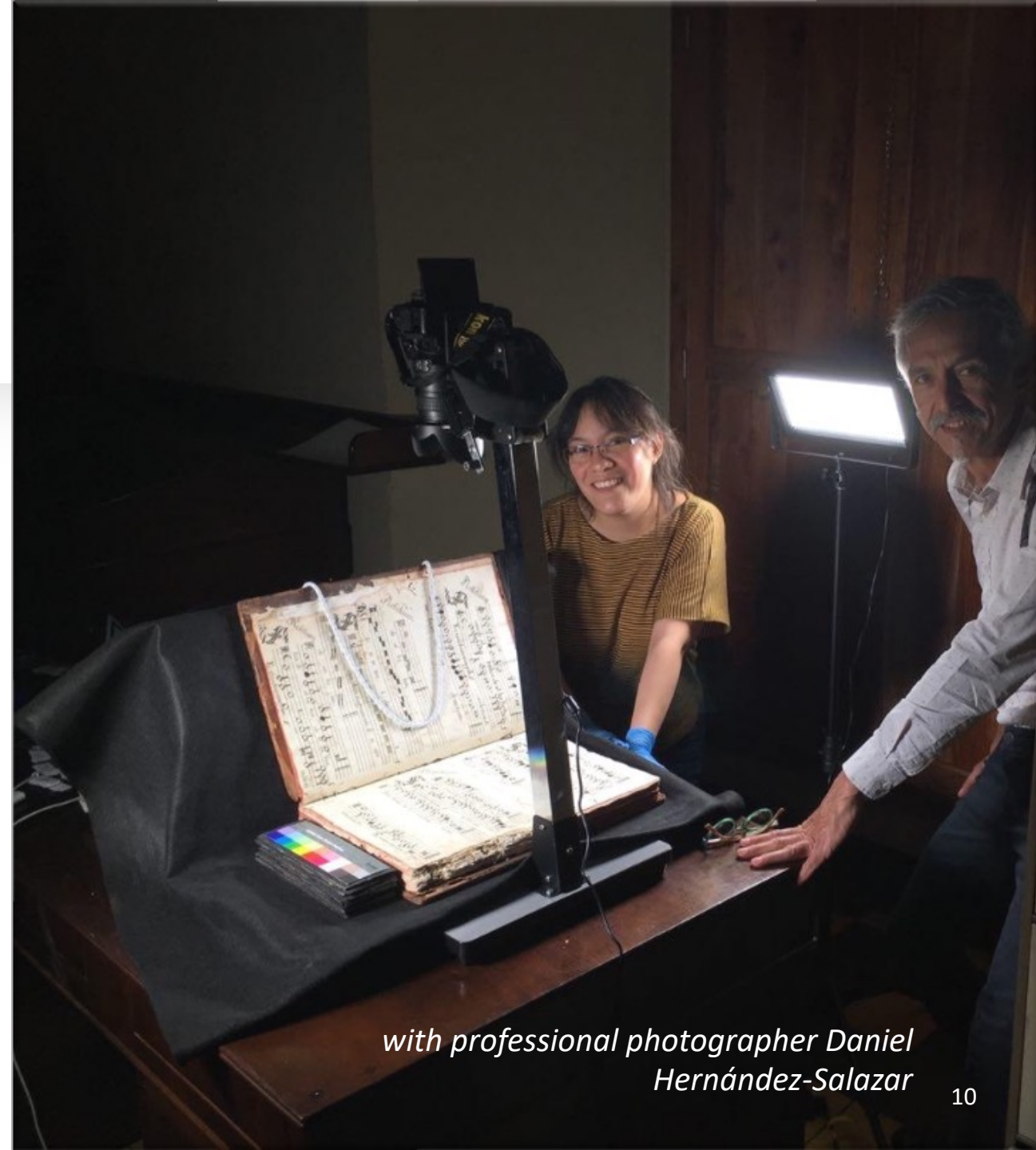


Digital image

Technology Used

DIY Book Scanner

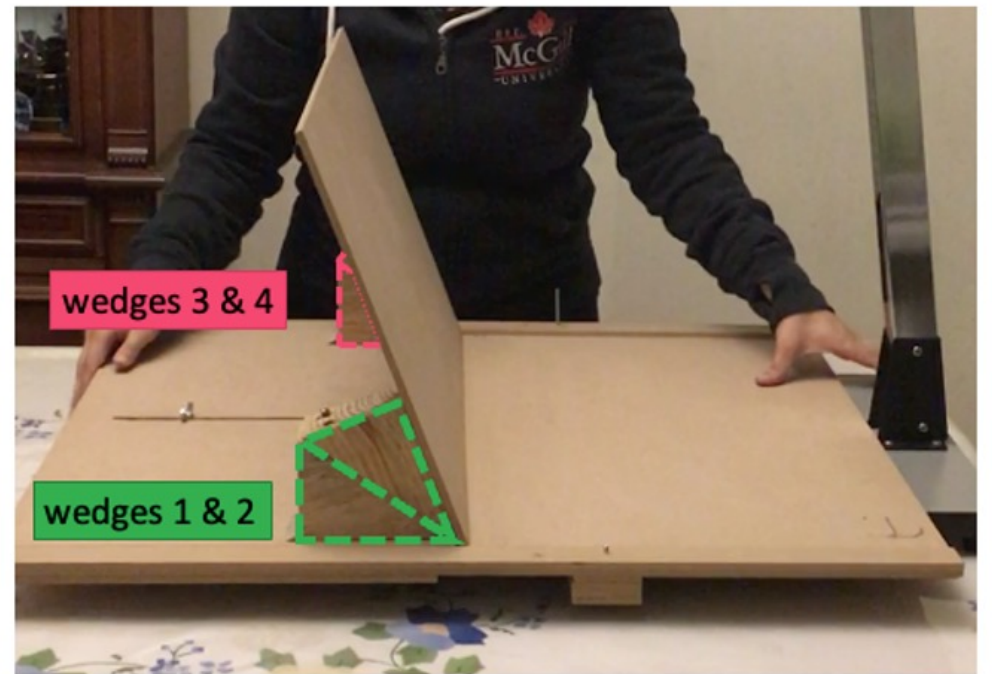
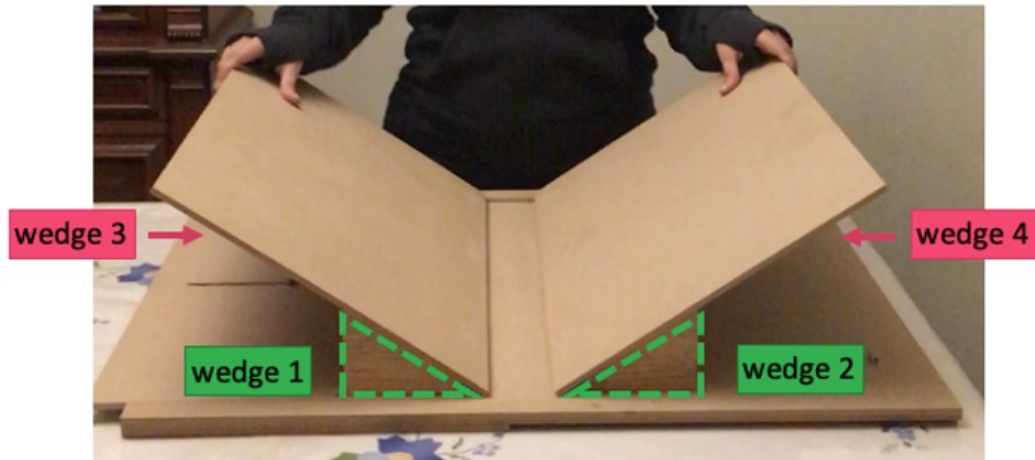
- Advice from various institutions including the *Digital Image Archive of Medieval Music (DIAMM)*
- With **borrowed** (camera & lights) and **built** parts (cradle)



with professional photographer Daniel
Hernández-Salazar

Technology Used

Book Cradle Configurations

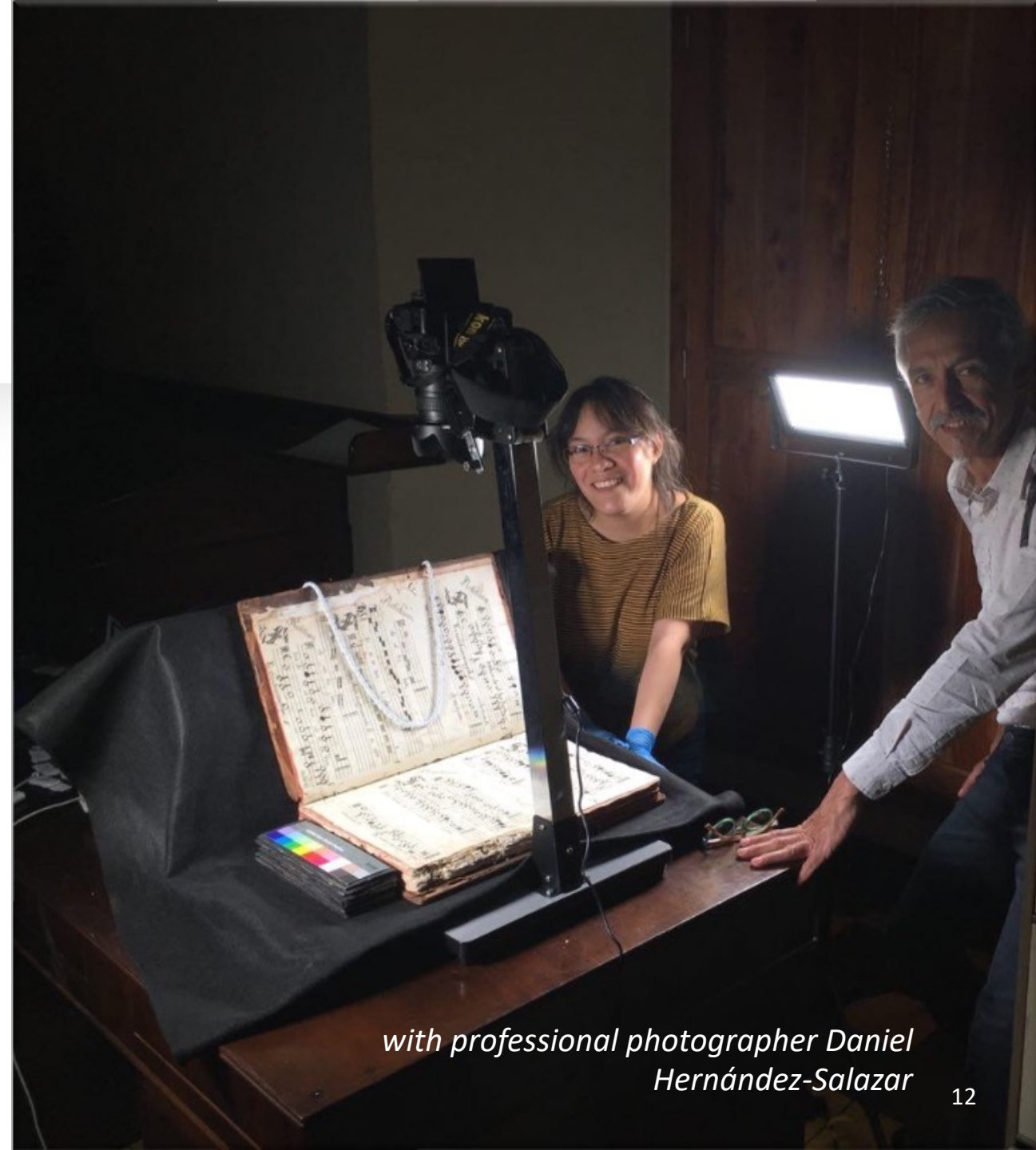


German Thomae

Digitization Stage

AFFORDABLE

- **Equipment:** Do-it-yourself (DIY) book scanner
- **Conservation task:** Outsourced to non-profit institution
- **Digitization task:** Conducted by me with a professional photographer hired for a few of sessions (setting camera parameters)

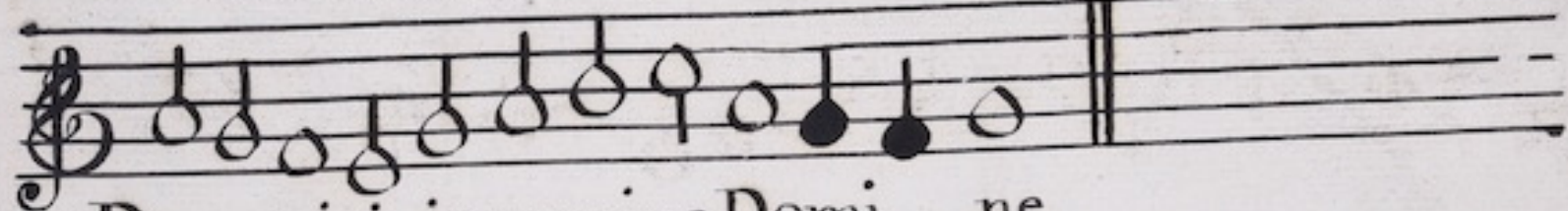


with professional photographer Daniel Hernández-Salazar

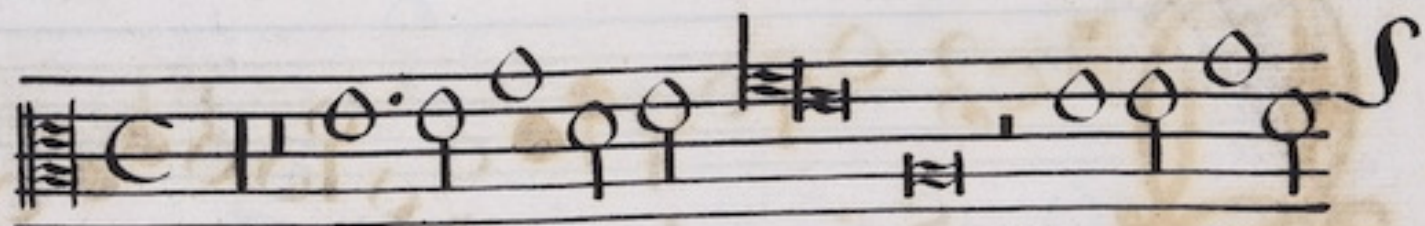
Results



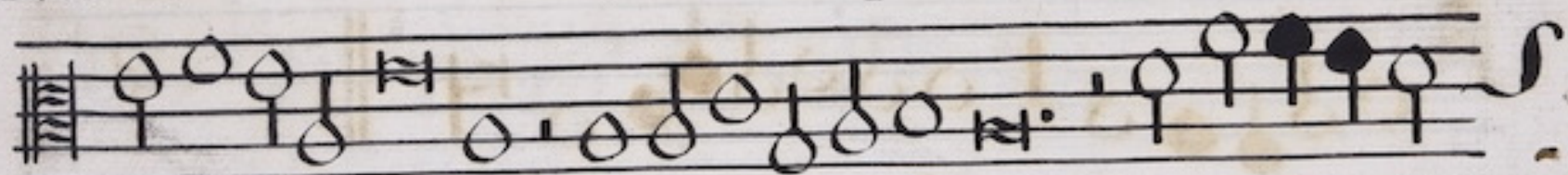
innomine Domini, innomine Do mini, innomine



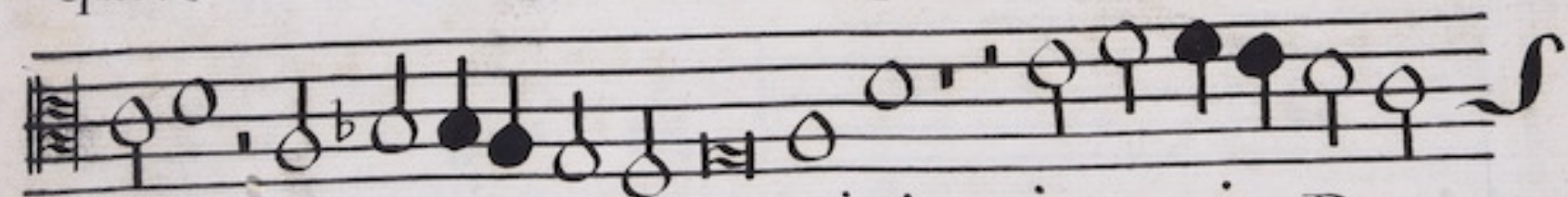
Do mini, in nomine Domi ne,



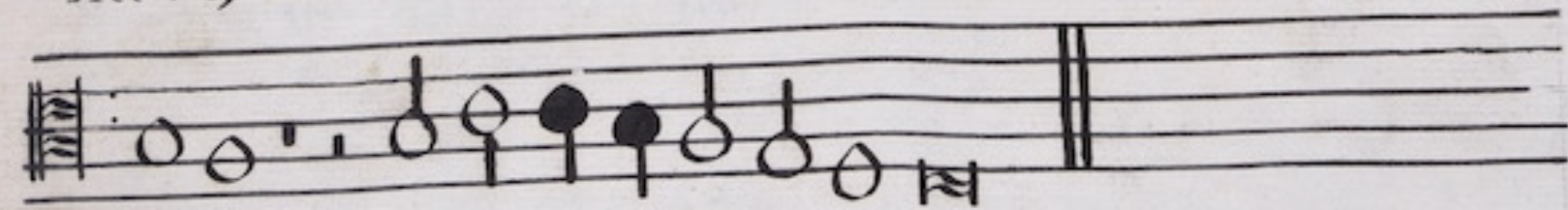
E ne dictus quive nit Benedictus



quive nit Benedictus quivenit in nomine Do



mi ni, in nomine Do mi ni, in nomine Do

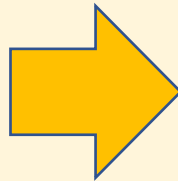


Optical Music Recognition (OMR)

MuRET (Music Recognition Encoding and Transcription)



Digital image



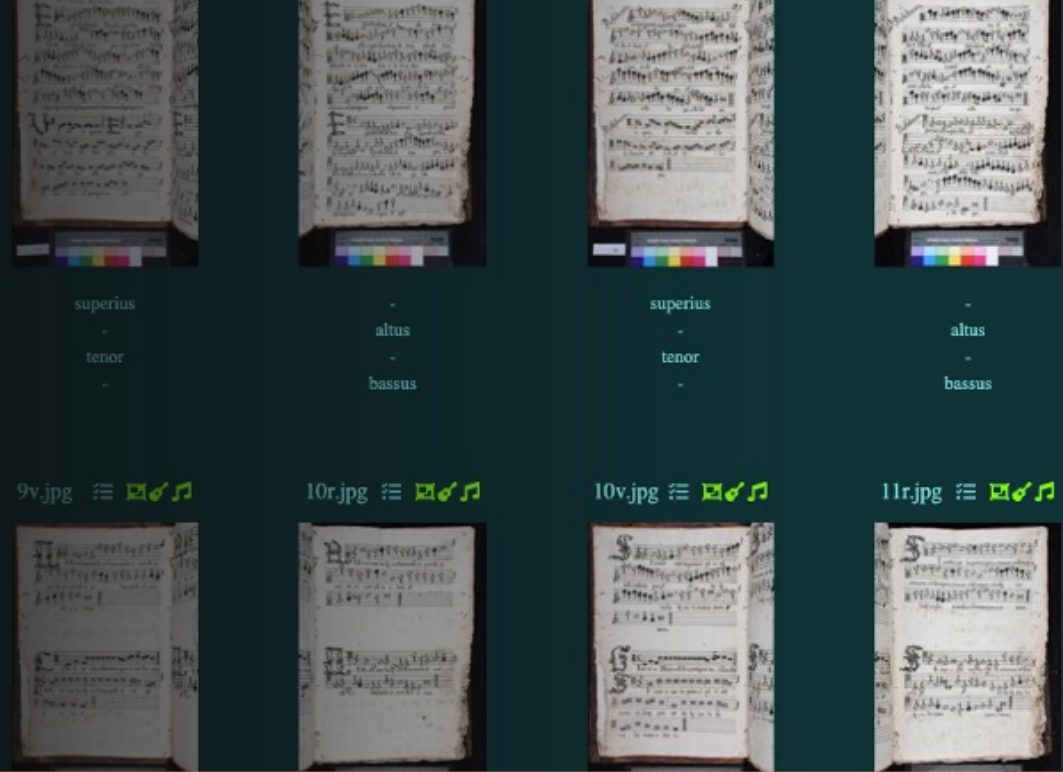
```
<mei>
<music>
<staff n="1">
<clef line="2" shape="G"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<dot/>
<note dur="minima" pname="c" oct="5"/>
<ligature form="recta">
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<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="4"/>
</ligature>
<note dur="brevis" pname="b" oct="4"/>
</staff>
</music>
</mei>
```

MEI Parts file
encodes the **symbols** in each
part/voice of the images

MuRET

Optical music recognition framework that supports mensural notation

Developed by David Rizo, University of Alicante



MURET

Music Recognition, encoding, and transcription



Document overview

Right click on selected images for further exporting and part linking

Unassigned to section

New section...

Move all to default section...

7v.jpg



superius
-
tenor

8r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus

8v.jpg



superius
-
tenor

9r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus

9v.jpg



superius
-
tenor

10r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus

10v.jpg

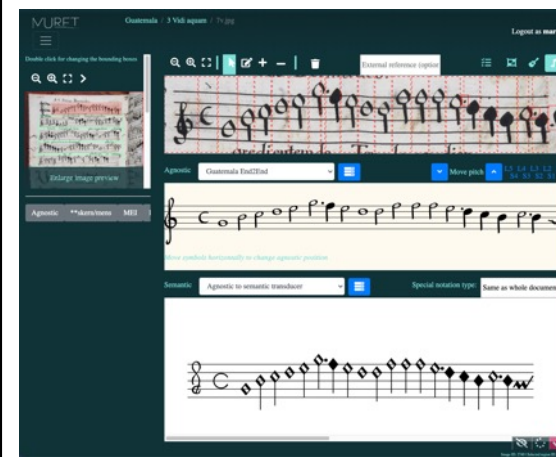
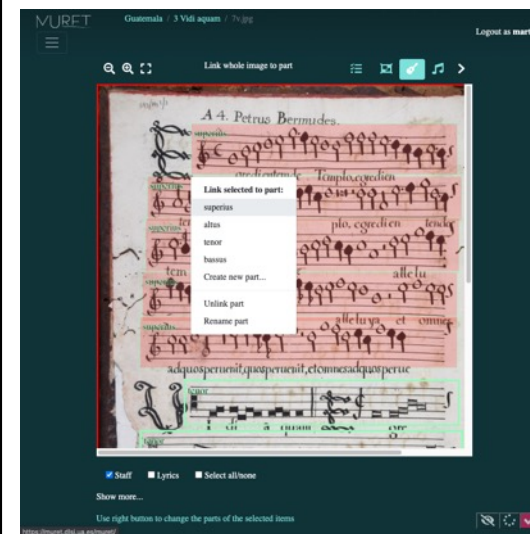
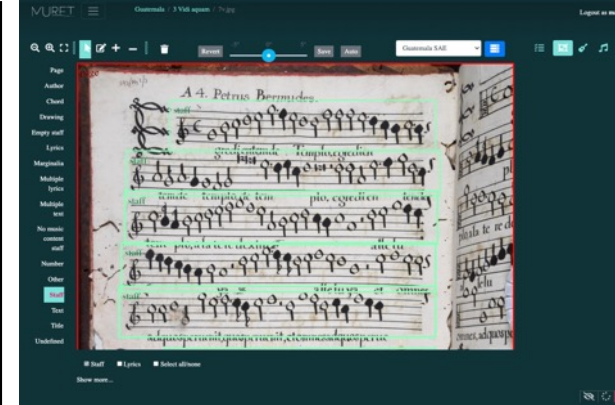


superius
-
tenor

11r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus



Revert -5° 0° 5°
 Save Auto

Guatemala SAE

- Page
- Author
- Chord
- Drawing
- Empty staff
- Lyrics
- Marginalia
- Multiple lyrics
- Multiple text
- No music content staff
- Number
- Other
- Staff
- Text
- Title
- Undefined

893/Hs 1/3

A 4. Petrus Bermudes.

staff

gredientem de Templo, egredien

staff

tem de templo, de tem pio, egredien tencia

staff

tem plo, ala te re dexi

staff

afflu ya et omnes

ad quos peruenit, quos peruenit, et omnes ad quos perue

895/H5 1/3

A 4. Petrus Bermudes.

superius
 credentem de Templo, egredien

superius
 plio, egredien tendes

superius
 alle lu

superius
 alle lu ya et omnes

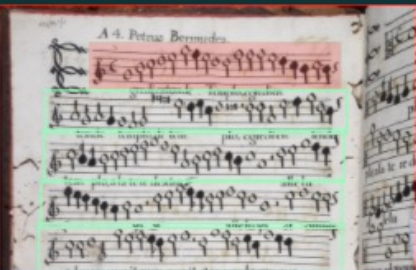
ad quos peruenit, quos peruenit, et omnes ad quos perue

tenor
 I di a quam ore

tenor

- Link selected to part:**
- superius
 - altus
 - tenor
 - bassus
 - Create new part...
 - Unlink part
 - Rename part

Double click for changing the bounding boxes



Enlarge image preview

Agnostic

**skern/mens

MEI

PAEC

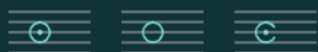
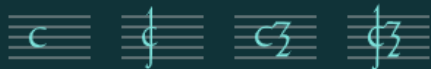
Clefs | Meters

Notes

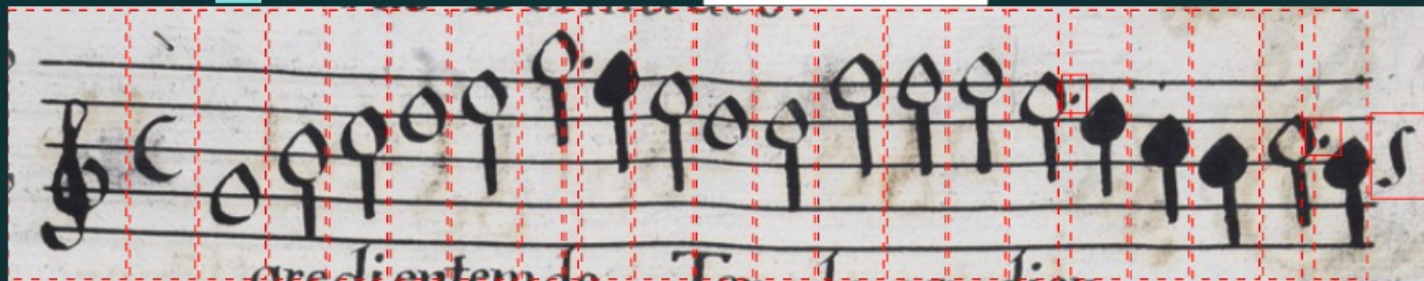
Beamed notes

Rests | Accidentals

Other



External reference (option)



Agnostic

Guatemala End2End



Move pitch



L5 L4 L3 L2 L1
S4 S3 S2 S1



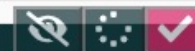
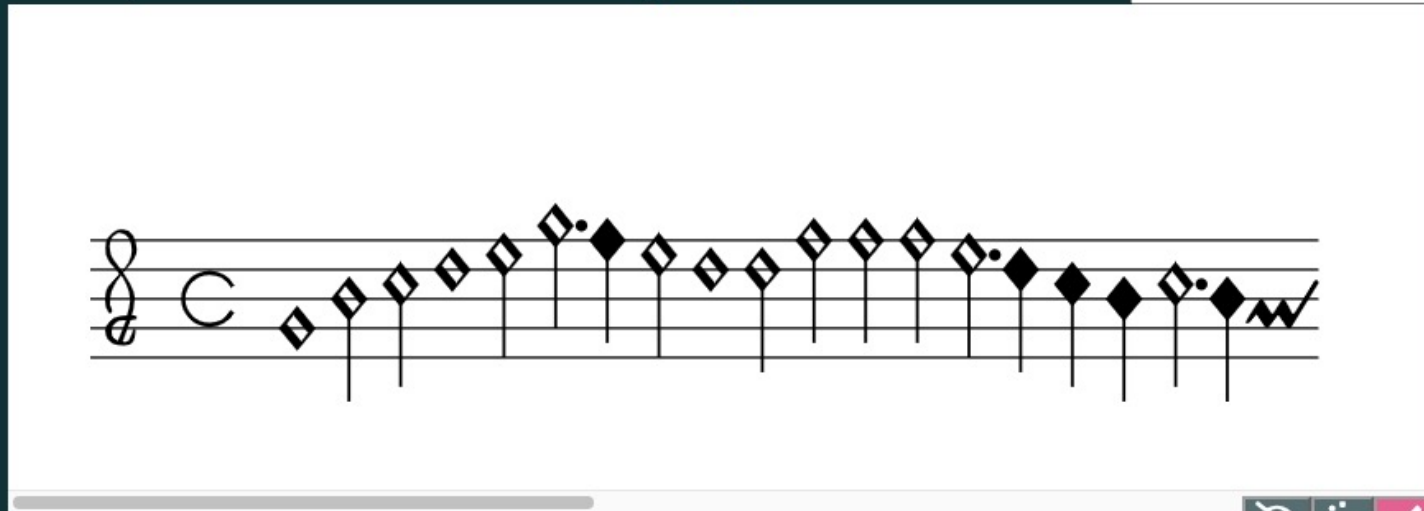
Semantic

Agnostic to semantic transducer



Special notation type:

Same as whole document





Logout as martha

Document overview

Right click on selected images for further exporting and part linking

Unassigned to section

New section...

Move all to default section...

7v.jpg



superius
-
tenor

8r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus

8v.jpg



superius
-
tenor

9r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus

9v.jpg



superius
-
tenor

10r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus

10v.jpg

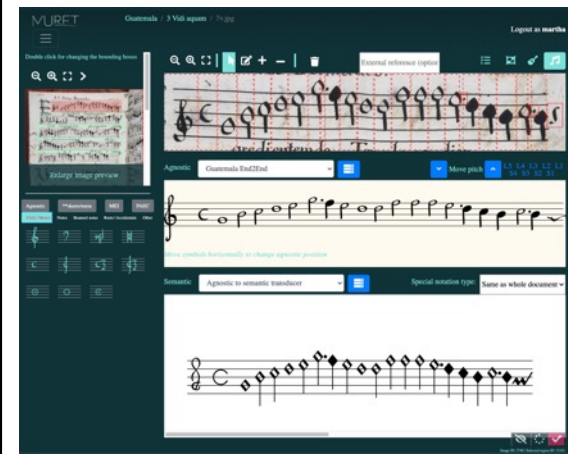
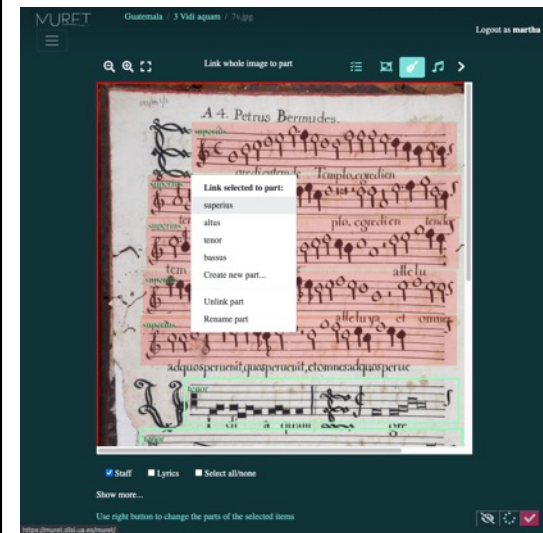
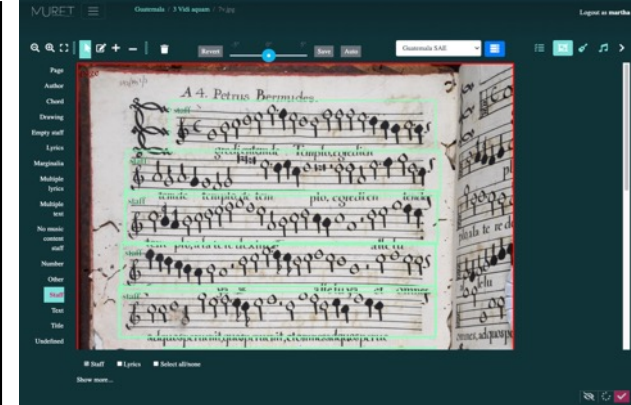


superius
-
tenor

11r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus





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New section...

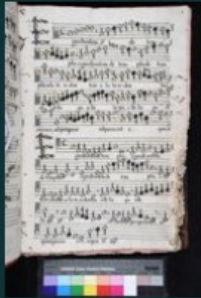
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-

8r.jpg



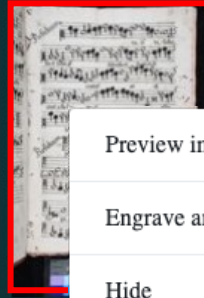
-
altus
-
bassus

8v.jpg



superius
-
tenor
-

9r.jpg



- Preview image...
- Engrave and export (MEI)...
- Hide
- Move to section:**
- Unassign section
- Link whole image to part:**
- superius
- altus
- tenor
- bassus
- Create new part...
- Unlink part

9v.jpg



superius
-
tenor
-

10r.jpg



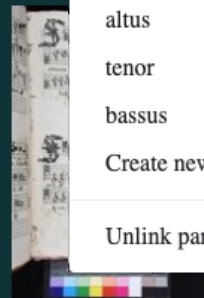
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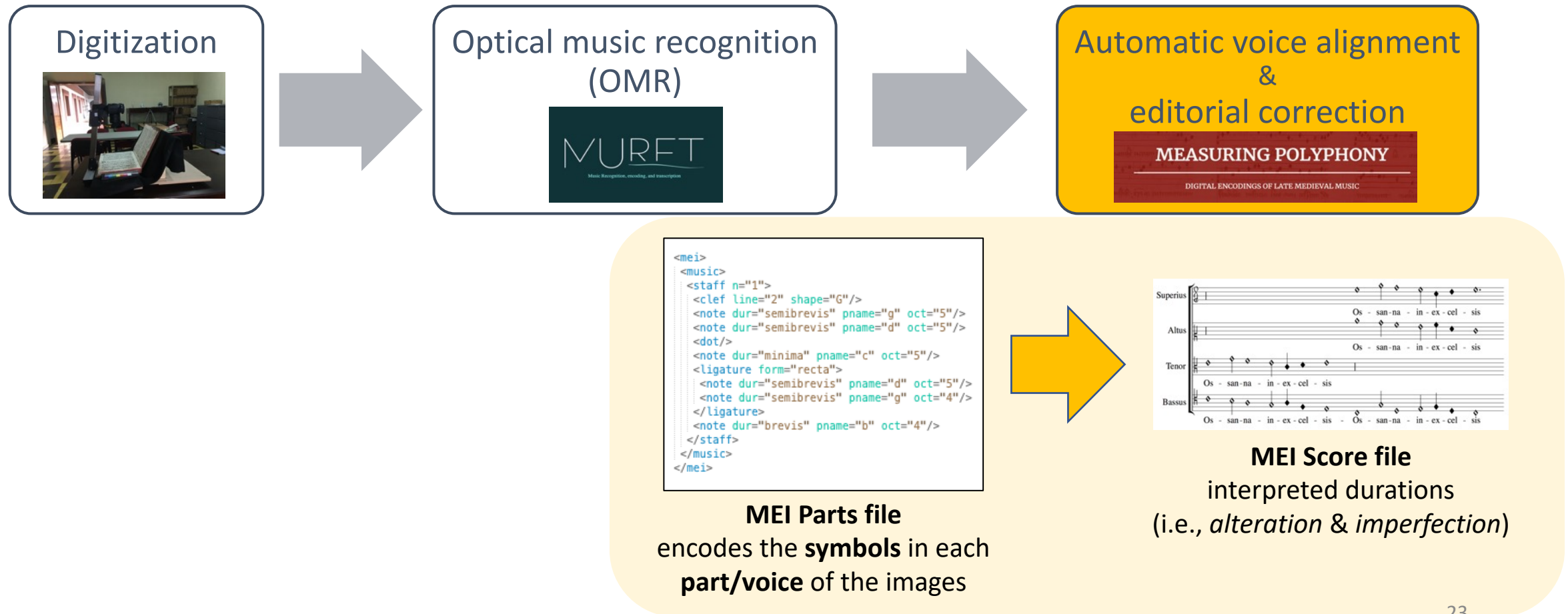
11r.jpg



-
altus
-
bassus

Automatic Voice Alignment & Editorial Correction

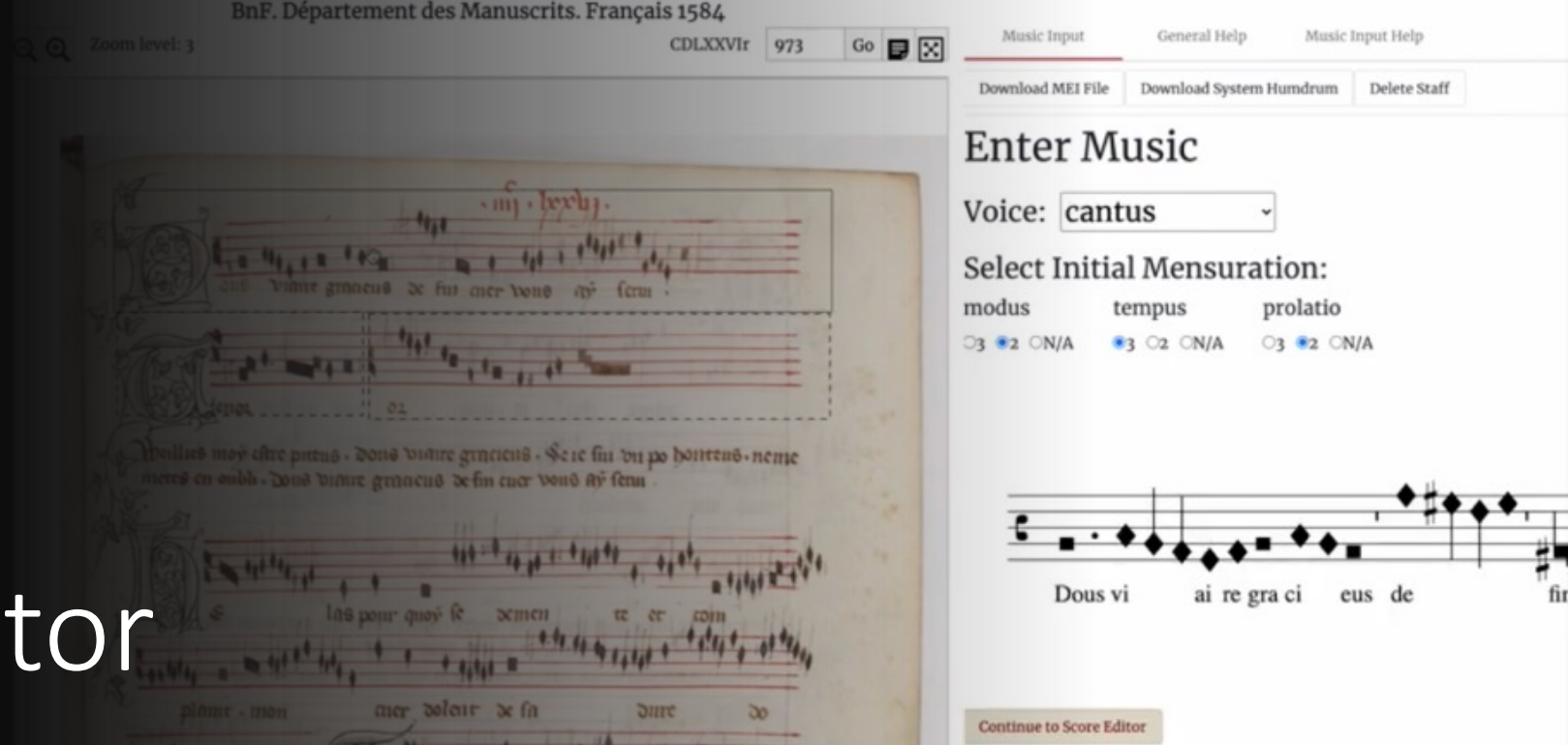
Measuring Polyphony Editor (MP-Editor)



Measuring Polyphony Editor

Online editor for mensural notation

Karen Desmond (PI), Brandeis University



MEASURING POLYPHONY

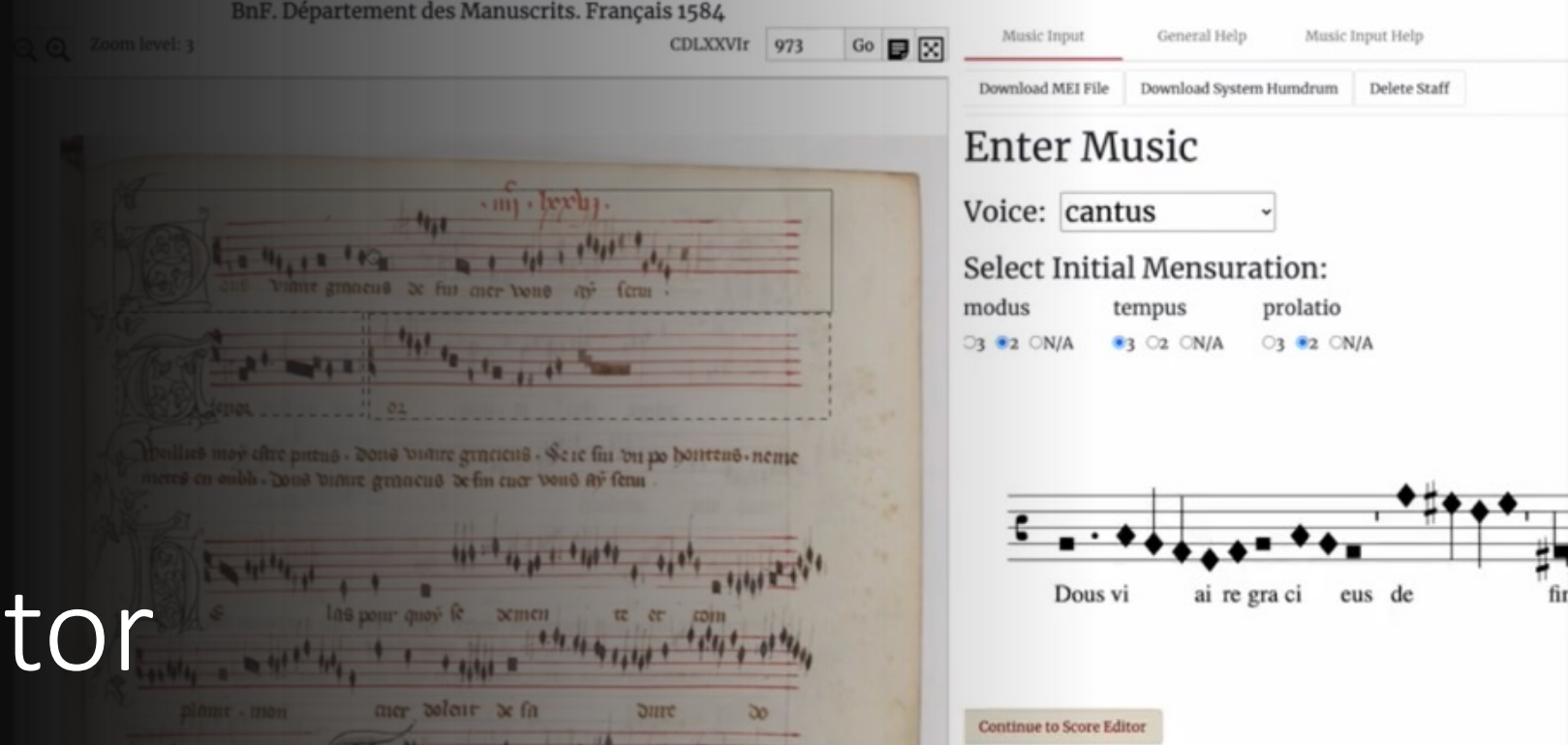
Measuring Polyphony Editor

Online editor for mensural notation

Mostly developed at McGill University:

- **Juliette Regimbal** (lead developer)
- **Martha E. Thomae** (automatic voice alignment function)

And with **Laurent Pugin** (Verovio), **Craig Sapp** (Humdrum), and **Andrew Hankinson** (IIIF)



MEASURING POLYPHONY

Load a manuscript

Manuscript Repository: URL:

For example, to transcribe a piece from the famous *Roman de Fauvel* manuscript, choose *Gallica* in the dropdown and paste this URL:
<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8454675g>

Load an .mei file

Compatible Parts -MEI File: No file chosen

The Measuring Polyphony Music Editor (the MP Editor), funded by the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#), is a prototype web application that allows users with no expertise in music encoding to transcribe and digitally encode transcriptions of polyphony in mensural notation, and create links between these music transcriptions to zones of the digital images of the original medieval manuscripts. To download a White Paper on the MP Editor, click [here](#). For more information about the Measuring Polyphony project, click [here](#).

Project Team

- Karen Desmond, Brandeis University, Massachusetts, USA: Principal Investigator & Project Director
- Juliette Regimbal, McGill University, Canada: Prototype developer
- Martha Thomae, McGill University, Canada: Prototype developer
- Andrew Hankinson, RISM, Switzerland: Consultant on diva.js, MEI
- Laurent Pugin, University of Bern & RISM, Switzerland: Consultant on Verovio, MEI
- Craig Sapp, Stanford University, California, USA: Consultant on Humdrum, MEI

Student Research Assistants

- Caelan Gadweh-Meaden, Brandeis University, USA
- Zen Kuriyama, Brandeis University, USA
- Daniel Shapiro, Brandeis University, USA

With thanks also to Julie Cumming and her music palaeography students at McGill University - Christina Colanduoni, Mayu Egan, Geneviève Gates-Panneton, Namgon Lee, and Celia Morin - for testing the MP Editor in December 2020.

Advisory Board

- Julie Cumming, McGill University, Canada
- Julia Craie McFeeley, University of Oxford, UK

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Karen Desmond, Brandeis University, Massachusetts, USA: Principal Investigator & Project Director

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Project Team

Karen Desmond, Brandeis University, Massachusetts, USA: Principal Investigator & Project Director



Download MEI File Download System Humdrum Delete Staff

Enter Music

Voice:

Select Initial Mensuration:

modus	tempus	prolatio
<input type="radio"/> 3 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> N/A	<input type="radio"/> 3 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> N/A	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 3 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> N/A

Mensuration Sign:

166v.jpg_p1_s1

Continue to Score Editor

modus

3 2 N/A

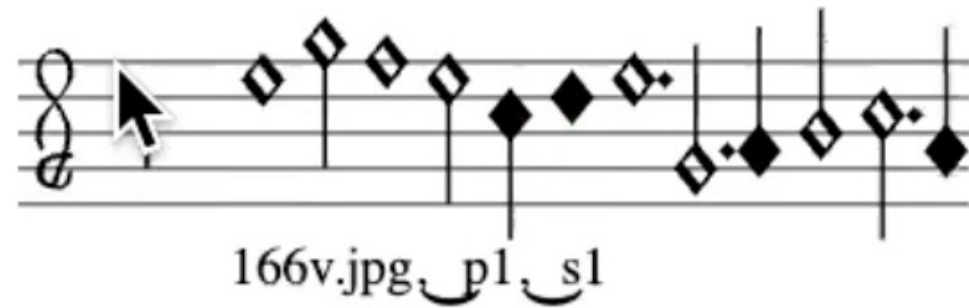
tempus

3 2 N/A

prolatio

3 2 N/A

Mensuration Sign:



Continue to Score Editor

Pedro Bermudez

Zoom level: 3 152v.jpg - 153r.jpg Go

Score Editor Score Editor Help

Return to Music Input Download MEI File(s) Copy MEI Score to Clipboard



16 Missa de Bomba

superius
166v.jpg_p1_s1 166v.jpg_p1_s2 166v.jpg_p1_s3

altus
167r.jpg_p1_s1 167r.jpg_p1_s2 167r.jpg_p1_s3

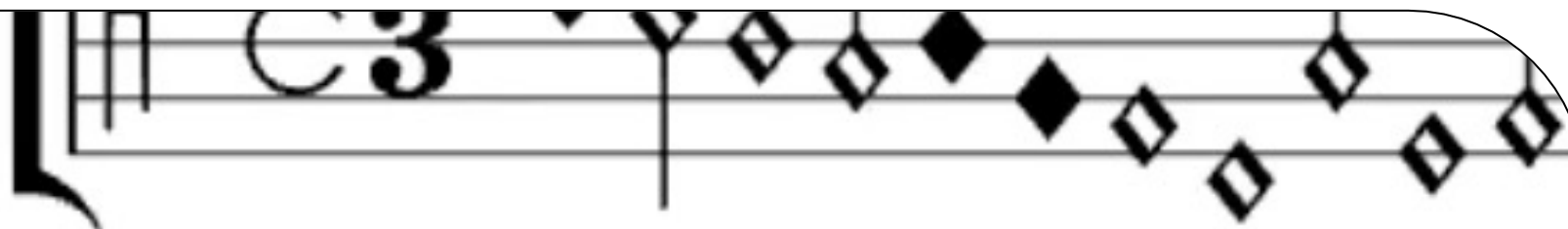
tenor
166v.jpg_p1_s4 166v.jpg_p1_s5 166v.jpg

bassus
167r.jpg_p1_s4 167r.jpg_p1_s5

Bar by: none Switch to Modern Cl Add Dissonance Labels

Continue in Editorial Mode

bassus



167r.jpg, p1, s4

Bar by: ▾

Switch to Modern Clef

Add Dissonance Labels

Continue in Editorial Mode

bassus



167r.jpg, p1, s4

Bar by:

semibreve ▾

Switch to Modern Clefs

Add Dissonance Labels

Continue in Editorial Mode

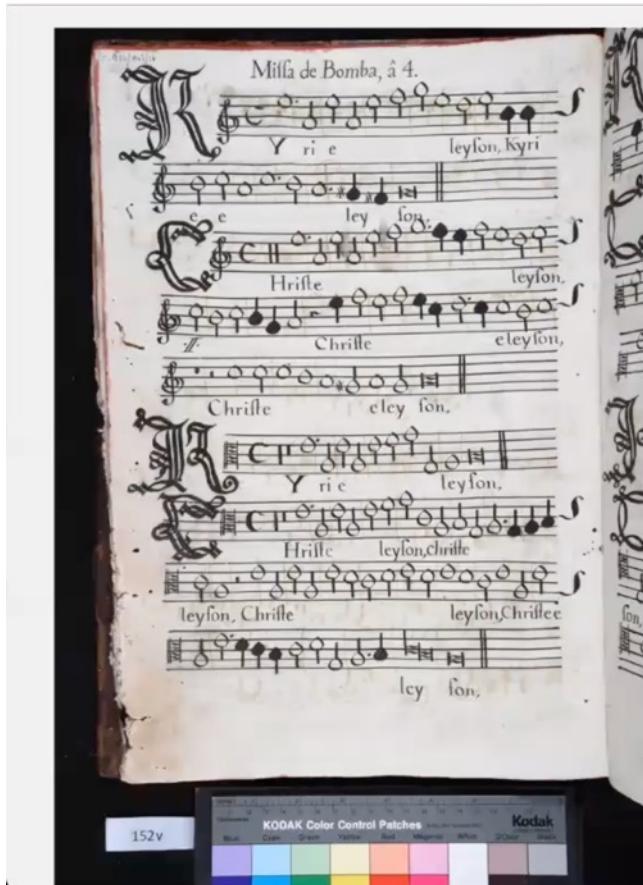
Pedro Bermudez

Zoom level: 3

152v.jpg - 153r.jpg

[Score Editor](#) [Score Editor Help](#)

[Return to Music Input](#) [Download MEI File\(s\)](#) [Copy MEI Score to Clipboard](#)



16 Missa de Bomba

superius
166v.jpg_p1_s1 166v.jpg_p1_s2 1

altus
167r.jpg_p1_s1 167r.jpg_p1_s2 1

tenor
166v.jpg_p1_s4 166v.jpg_p1_s5

bassus
167r.jpg_p1_s4 167r.jpg_p1_s5

A digital score editor view of the '16 Missa de Bomba'. It displays four staves for the vocal parts: superius, altus, tenor, and bassus. The time signature is 3/4. The notes are represented by diamond-shaped noteheads. The score is divided into sections corresponding to the manuscript pages: 166v.jpg_p1_s1 and 166v.jpg_p1_s2 for the superius part; 167r.jpg_p1_s1 and 167r.jpg_p1_s2 for the altus part; 166v.jpg_p1_s4 and 166v.jpg_p1_s5 for the tenor part; and 167r.jpg_p1_s4 and 167r.jpg_p1_s5 for the bassus part. The first measure of each section is marked with a '1'.

Bar by: **semibreve** Switch to Modern Clefs Add Dissonance Labels

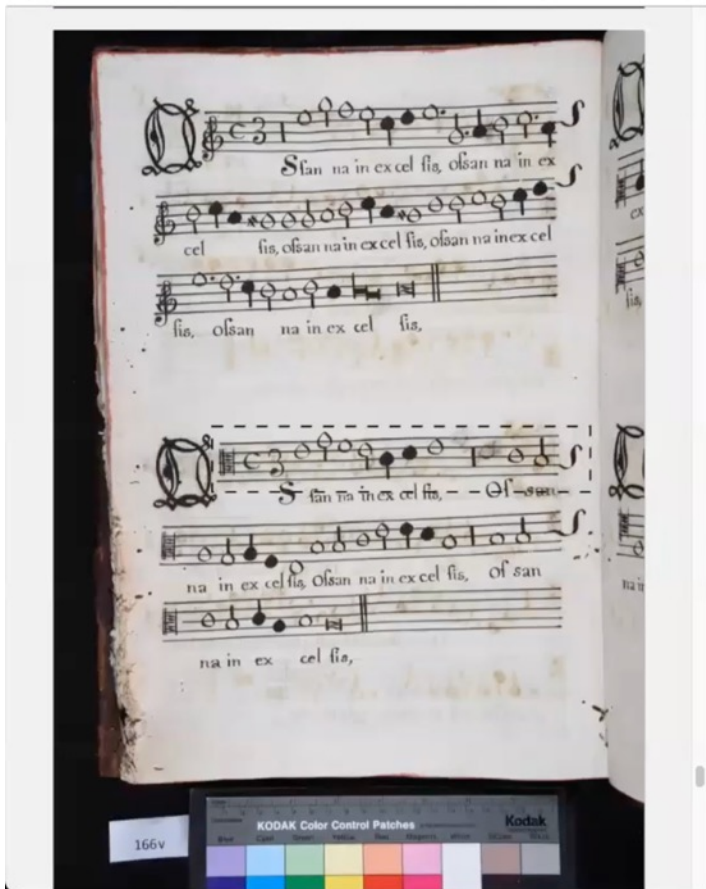
[Continue in Editorial Mode](#)

Pedro Bermudez

Zoom level: 3 166r.jpg - 167r.jpg Go

Score Editor Score Editor Help

Return to Music Input Download MEI File(s) Copy MEI Score to Clipboard



16 Missa de Bomba

superius
 166v.jpg_p1_s1 166v.jpg_p1_s2 1

altus
 167r.jpg_p1_s1 167r.jpg_p1_s2 1

tenor
 166v.jpg_p1_s4 166v.jpg_p1_s5

bassus
 167r.jpg_p1_s4 167r.jpg_p1_s5

Bar by: semibreve Switch to Modern Clefs Add Dissonance Labels

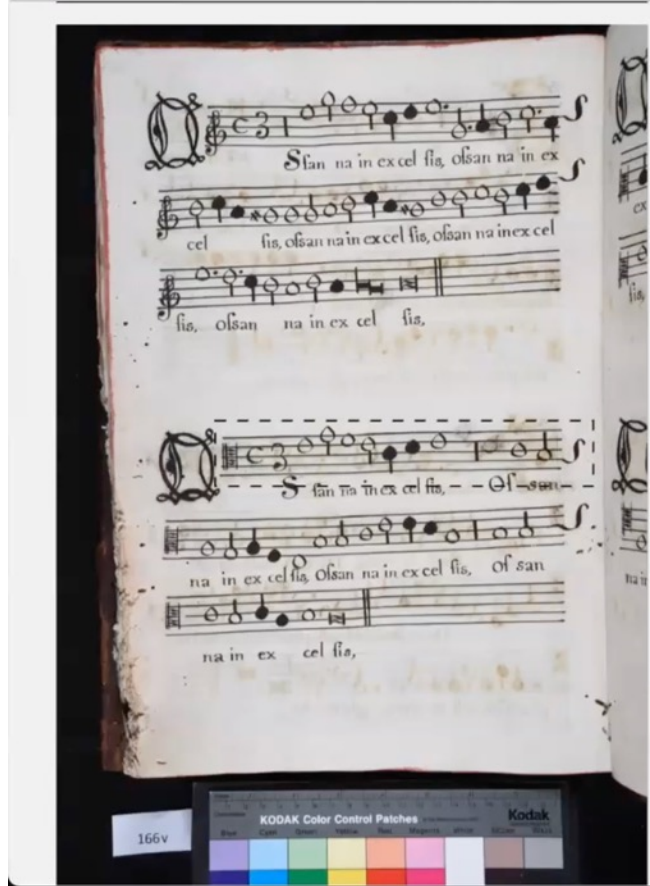
Continue in Editorial Mode

Pedro Bermudez

Zoom level: 3
166r.jpg - 167r.jpg

Score Editor Score Editor Help

Return to Music Input Download MEI File(s) Copy MEI Score to Clipboard



16 Missa de Bomba

superius
166v.jpg_p1_s1 166v.jpg_p1_s2

altus
167r.jpg_p1_s1 167r.jpg_p1_s2

tenor
166v.jpg_p1_s4 166v.jpg_p1_s5

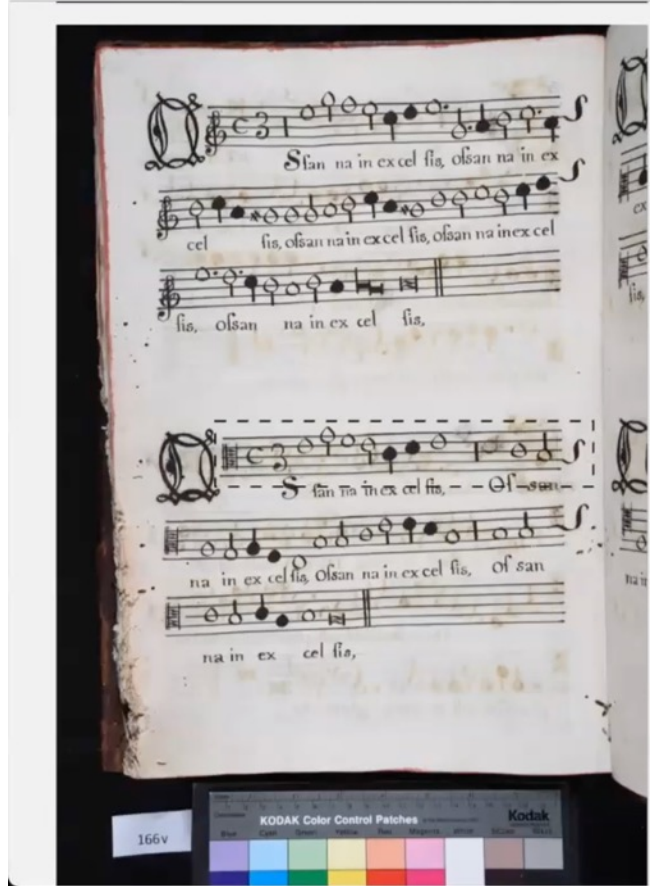
bassus
167r.jpg_p1_s4 167r.jpg_p1_s5

Bar by: **semibreve** Switch to Modern Clefs Add Dissonance Labels

[Continue in Editorial Mode](#)

Pedro Bermudez
Zoom level: 3
166r.jpg - 167r.jpg

Score Editor Score Editor Help
Return to Music Input Download MEI File(s) Copy MEI Score to Clipboard



16 Missa de Bomba

superius
166v.jpg_p1_s1 166v.jpg_p1_s2

altus
167r.jpg_p1_s1 167r.jpg_p1_s2

tenor
166v.jpg_p1_s4 166v.jpg_p1_s5

bassus
167r.jpg_p1_s4 167r.jpg_p1_s5

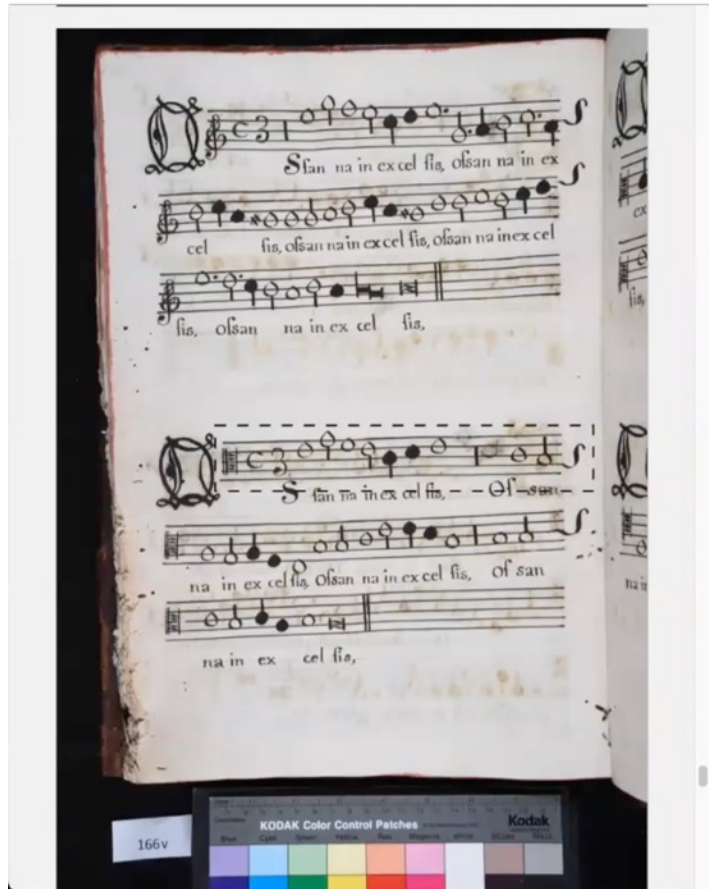
Bar by: **semibreve** Switch to Modern Clefs Add Dissonance Labels
Continue in Editorial Mode

Pedro Bermudez

Zoom level: 3 166r.jpg - 167r.jpg Go

Score Editor Score Editor Help

Return to Music Input Download MEI File(s) Copy MEI Score to Clipboard



16 Missa de Bomba

superius
166v.jpg_p1_s1 166v.jpg_p1_s2

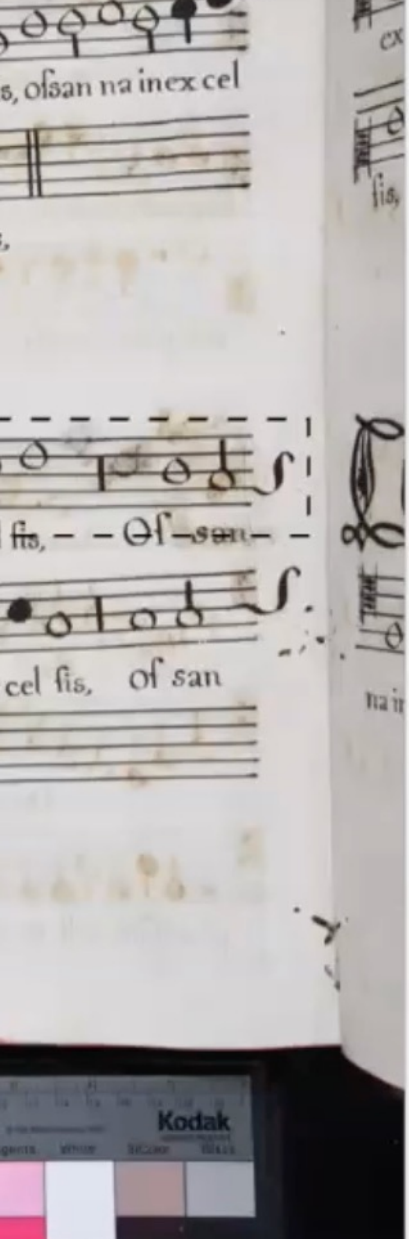
altus
167r.jpg_p1_s1 167r.jpg_p1_s2

tenor
166v.jpg_p1_s4 166v.jpg_p1_s5

bassus
167r.jpg_p1_s4 167r.jpg_p1_s5

Bar by: semibreve Switch to Modern Clefs Add Dissonance Labels

Continue in Editorial Mode



superius

166v.jpg_p1_s1

166v.jpg_p1_s2

altus

167r.jpg_p1_s1

167r.jpg_p1_s2

tenor

166v.jpg_p1_s4

166v.jpg_p1_s5

bassus

167r.jpg_p1_s4

167r.jpg_p1_s5

Bar by: **semibreve** Switch to Modern Clefs Add Dissonance Labels

[Continue in Editorial Mode](#)

167r.jpg Go  

Score Editor

Score Editor Help

[Return to Music Input](#)

[Download MEI File\(s\)](#)

[Copy MEI Score to Clipboard](#)

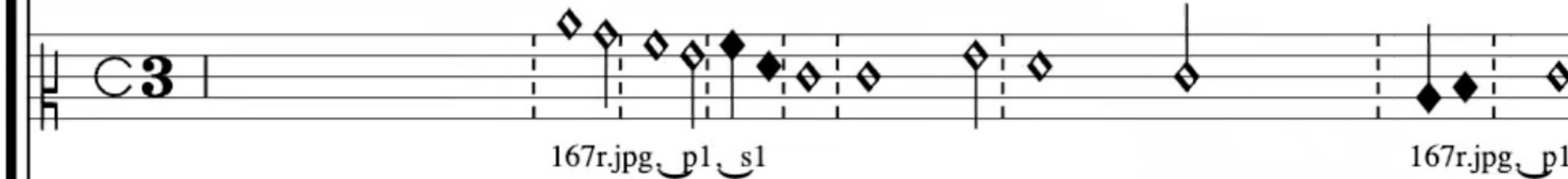
16 Missa de Bomba

superius



Musical notation for the superius part, showing a treble clef, a common time signature (C), and a 3/4 time signature. The notation includes diamond-shaped notes and stems. Below the staff, there are two image references: "166v.jpg_p1_s1" and "166v.jpg_p1_s2".

altus



Musical notation for the altus part, showing an alto clef, a common time signature (C), and a 3/4 time signature. The notation includes diamond-shaped notes and stems. Below the staff, there are two image references: "167r.jpg_p1_s1" and "167r.jpg_p1_s2".

Methodology: Three-Step Process



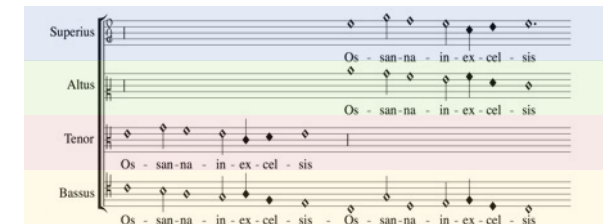
Manuscript



Digital images

```
<mei>
<music>
<staff n="1">
<clef line="2" shape="G"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<dot/>
<note dur="minima" pname="c" oct="5"/>
<ligature form="recta">
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="4"/>
</ligature>
<note dur="brevis" pname="b" oct="4"/>
</staff>
</music>
</mei>
```

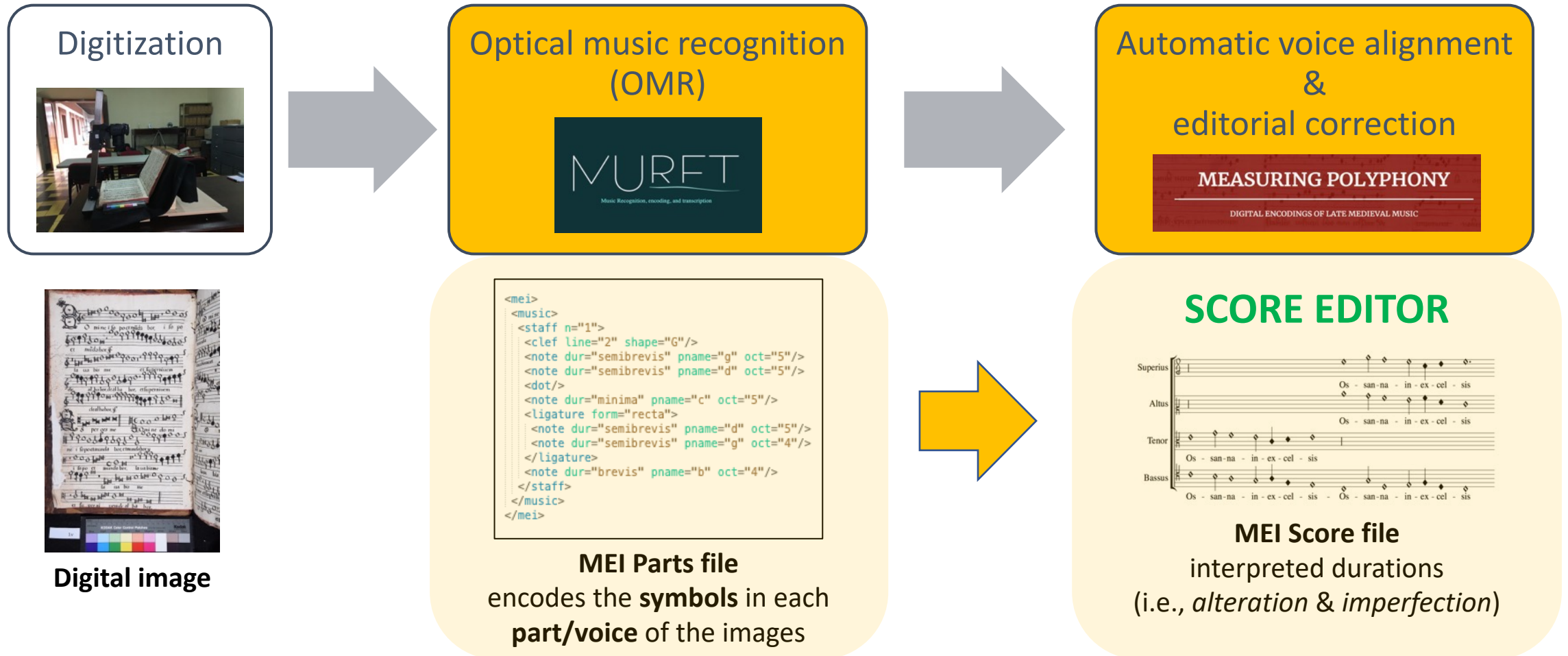
MEI Parts file
encodes the **symbols** in each
part/voice of the images



MEI Score file
interpreted durations
(i.e., *alteration & imperfection*)

Interoperability Work: *MuRET* & *MP Editor*

David Rizo, Juliette Regimbal, and Martha Thomae



MuRET Editor

muret.dlsi.ua.es/muret/#/document/piece/223

CAQ McGill's Services... Software to Downl... Verovio Editor Manuscriptorium MEI Garage Verovio MEI Viewer MuRET Editor MEC 2019 VHV W... MEC 2019 Tutorial... Welcome to PEM [... Welcome to Spani... Other Bookmarks

MURET

Guatemala / 16 Missa de Bomba

Logout as martha

166v.jpg

167r.jpg

168r.jpg

superius

altus

tenor

bassus

altus

altus

Scroll down if necessary

- Engrave and export (MEI)...
- Hide
- Move to section:
- Unassign section
- Link whole image to part:

Download MEI file | Export parts and facsimile for [MPEditor](#) | Press 'ESC' to exit

166v.jpg, p1, s1 | 166v.jpg, p1, s2

167r.jpg, p1, s1 | 167r.jpg, p1, s2



Load a manuscript

Manuscript Repository: Gallica URL:

Submit

For example, to transcribe a piece from the famous *Roman de Fauvel* manuscript, choose *Gallica* in the dropdown and paste this URL:

<https://gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b8454675g>

Load an .mei file

Compatible Parts -MEI File: Choose File No file chosen

Load File

The Measuring Polyphony Music Editor (the MP Editor), funded by the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#), is a prototype web application that allows users with no expertise in music encoding to transcribe and digitally encode transcriptions of polyphony in mensural notation, and create links between these music transcriptions to zones of the digital images of the original medieval manuscripts. To download a White Paper on the MP Editor, click [here](#). For more information about the Measuring Polyphony project, click [here](#).

Project Team

Karen Desmond, Brandeis University, Massachusetts, USA: Principal Investigator & Project Director
Juliette Regimbal, McGill University, Canada: Prototype developer
Martha Thomae, McGill University, Canada: Prototype developer
Andrew Hankinson, RISM, Switzerland: Consultant on diva.js, MEI
Laurent Pugin, University of Bern & RISM, Switzerland: Consultant on Verovio, MEI
Craig Sapp, Stanford University, California, USA: Consultant on Humdrum, MEI

Student Research Assistants

Caelan Gadweh - Meaden, Brandeis University, USA
Zen Kuriyama, Brandeis University, USA
Daniel Shapiro, Brandeis University, USA

With thanks also to Julie Cumming and her music palaeography students at McGill University - Christina Colanduoni, Mayu Egan, Geneviève Gates-Panneton, Namgon Lee, and Celia Morin - for testing the MP Editor in December 2020.

Advisory Board

Julie Cumming, McGill University, Canada
Julia Craic McFeely, University of Oxford, UK

Input editor

Usually a manual task

The screenshot shows the PHONY web application interface. At the top, it says "PHONY MEDIEVAL MUSIC" and "BROW". The page title is "Pedro Bermudez". There are navigation links for "Music Input", "General Help", and "Music Input Help". Below these are links for "Download MEI File", "Download System Handrum", and "Delete Staff". The main section is titled "Enter Music". It has a "Voice:" dropdown menu set to "superius". Below that, it says "Select Initial Mensuration:" with options for "modus", "tempus", and "prolatio". There are three radio buttons for "C3", "C2", and "C1", with "C3" selected. Below this is a "Mensuration Sign:" dropdown menu set to "C3". There is a small musical notation preview showing a staff with notes and a mensuration sign. At the bottom, there is a "Continue to Score Editor" button.

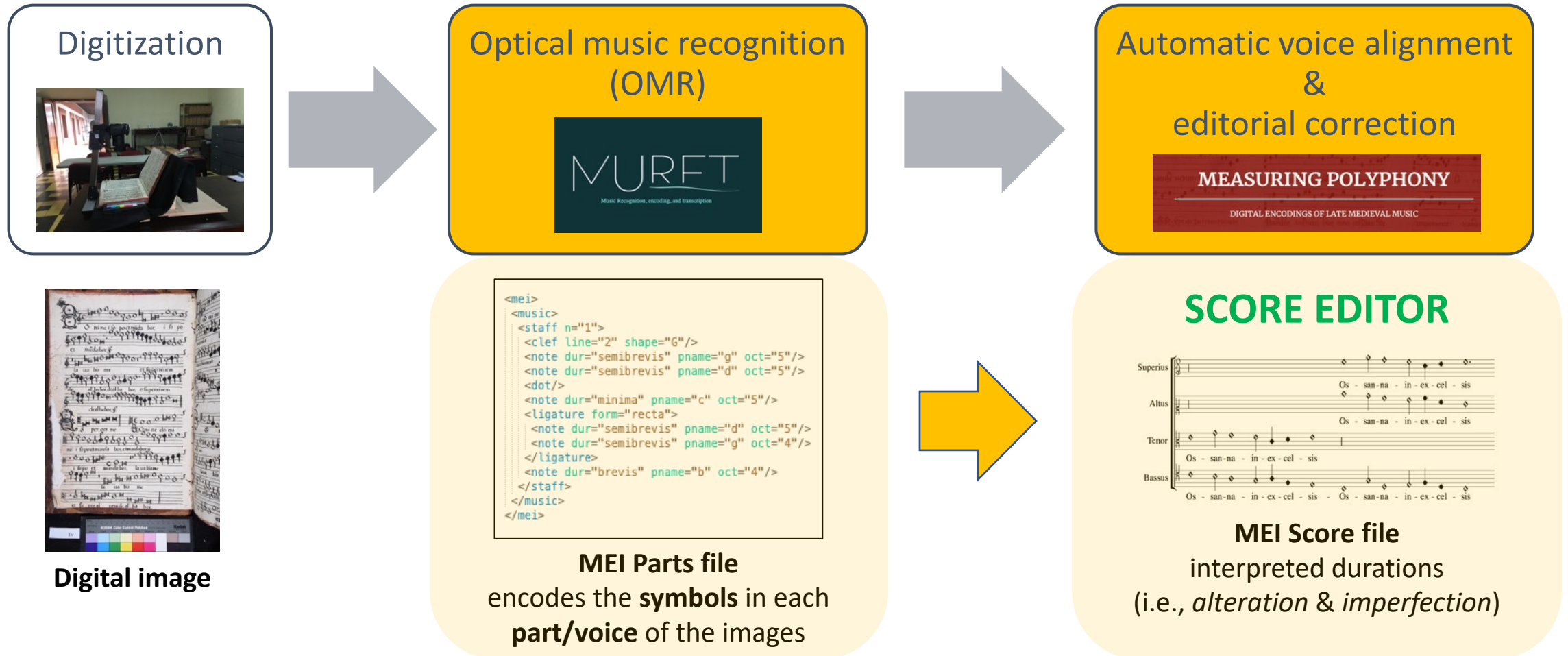
Score editor

An automatic task (with manual correction)

The screenshot shows the MEASURING POLYPHONY web application interface. At the top, it says "MEASURING POLYPHONY DIGITAL ENCODINGS OF LATE MEDIEVAL MUSIC" and "BROWSE TRANSCRIBE ABOUT". The page title is "Pedro Bermudez". There are navigation links for "Score Editor" and "Score Editor Help". Below these are links for "Return to Music Input", "Download MEI File(s)", and "Copy MEI Score to Clipboard". The main section is titled "16 Missa de Bomba". It shows a musical score with four staves: "superius", "altus", "tenor", and "bassus". Each staff has a mensuration sign of "C3". The score is divided into two systems. The first system has two staves, and the second system has two staves. There are labels for each staff: "166v.jpg_p1_s1", "166v.jpg_p1_s2", "167r.jpg_p1_s1", "167r.jpg_p1_s2", "166v.jpg_p1_s4", "166v.jpg_p1_s5", "167r.jpg_p1_s4", and "167r.jpg_p1_s5". At the bottom, there is a "Continue in Editorial Mode" button.

Interoperability Work: *MuRET* & *MP Editor*

David Rizo, Juliette Regimbal, and Martha Thomae



Interoperability Work: *Humdrum DF & MP Editor*

Craig Sapp, Juliette Regimbal, and Martha Thomae

Digitization



Digital image

Optical music recognition
(OMR)



```
<mei>
<music>
<staff n="1">
<clef line="2" shape="G"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<dot/>
<note dur="minima" pname="c" oct="5"/>
<ligature form="recta">
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="4"/>
</ligature>
<note dur="brevis" pname="b" oct="4"/>
</staff>
</music>
</mei>
```

MEI Parts file

encodes the **symbols** in each
part/voice of the images

Automatic voice alignment
&
editorial correction

MEASURING POLYPHONY

DIGITAL ENCODINGS OF LATE MEDIEVAL MUSIC

SCORE EDITOR

&

Humlib's

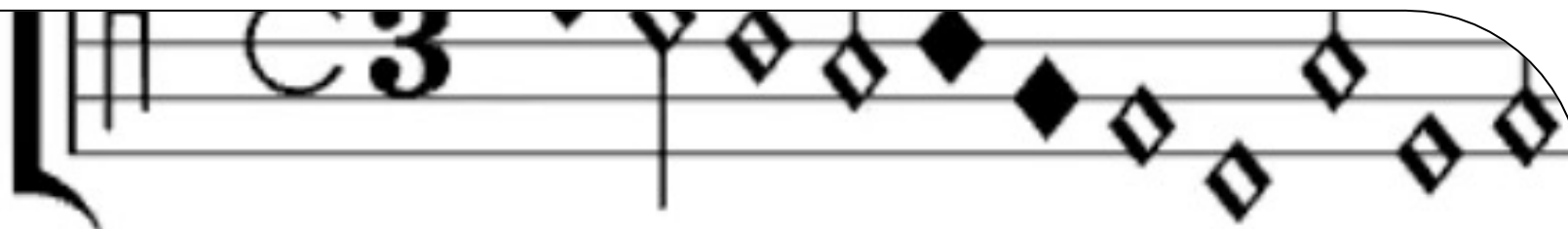
Dissonant Filter (DF)



MEI Score file

interpreted durations
(i.e., *alteration & imperfection*)

bassus



167r.jpg, p1, s4

Bar by: ▾

Switch to Modern Clef

Add Dissonance Labels

Continue in Editorial Mode

The image displays a musical score for four voices: superius, altus, tenor, and bassus. Each voice part is written on a five-line staff with a common time signature 'C'. The notes are represented by diamond shapes, and the score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and rests. The staves are grouped together by a large bracket on the left side. The superius part starts with a common time signature and a series of diamond notes. The altus part follows with similar notation, including some beamed notes. The tenor part also begins with a common time signature and diamond notes. The bassus part concludes the group with diamond notes and stems. The overall layout is clean and professional, typical of a printed musical score.

superius

altus

tenor

bassus

g

g

g

p

P

s

p l p

s

g

s

n

p l v

P g

a

Z g P g

v

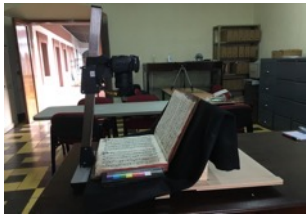
- P/p:** rising/downward passing tone
- N/n:** upper/lower neighbor tone
- s:** suspension
- g:** agent
- Z/z:** unclassified dissonance (2nd or 7th / 4th)
- l:** unclassified dissonance in parallel accompaniment

MP Editor with “legal” and “illegal” dissonances
 (labels come from *humlib’s dissonant filter*,
 developed by Alex Morgan and Craig Sapp for the Josquin Research Project)

Interoperability Work: *Humdrum DF & MP Editor*

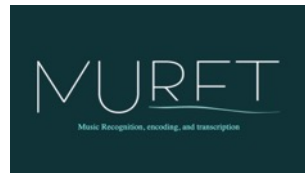
Craig Sapp, Juliette Regimbal, and Martha Thomae

Digitization



Digital image

Optical music recognition
(OMR)



```
<mei>
<music>
<staff n="1">
<clef line="2" shape="G"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<dot/>
<note dur="minima" pname="c" oct="5"/>
<ligature form="recta">
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="d" oct="5"/>
<note dur="semibrevis" pname="g" oct="4"/>
</ligature>
<note dur="brevis" pname="b" oct="4"/>
</staff>
</music>
</mei>
```

MEI Parts file

encodes the **symbols** in each
part/voice of the images

Automatic voice alignment
&
editorial correction

MEASURING POLYPHONY

DIGITAL ENCODINGS OF LATE MEDIEVAL MUSIC

SCORE EDITOR

&

Humlib's

Dissonant Filter (DF)

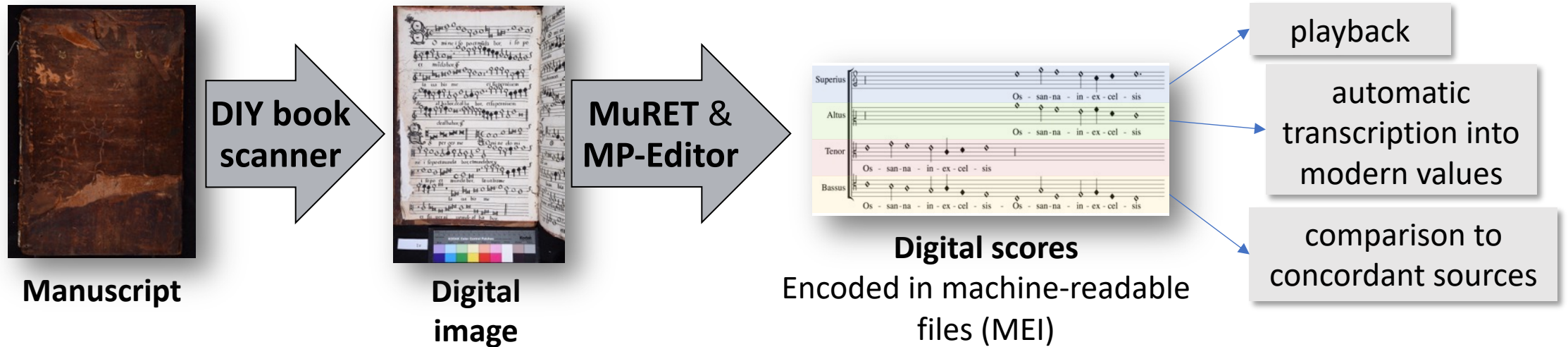
MEI Score file

interpreted durations
(i.e., *alteration & imperfection*)

Results

1. Files:

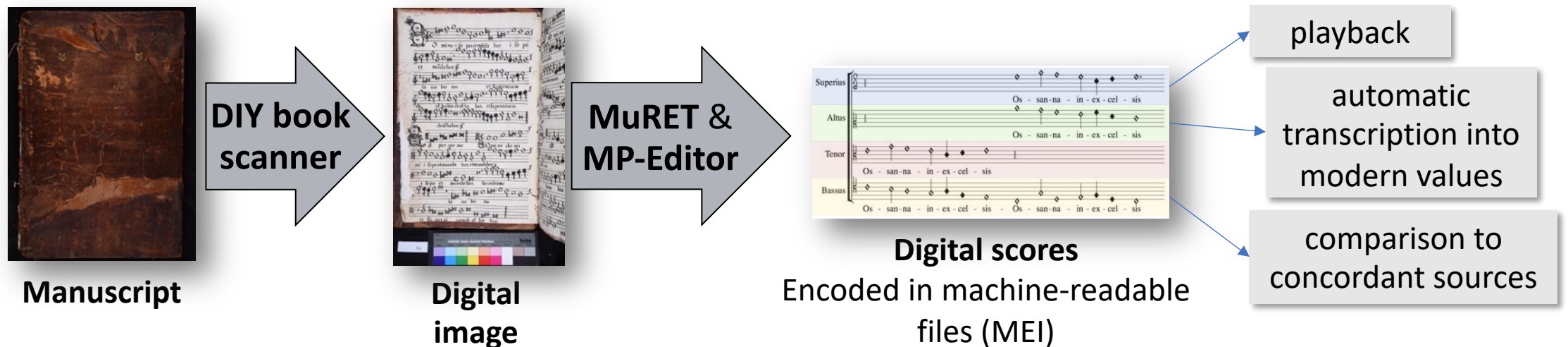
- Digital images (DIAMM)
- Mensural MEI files encoding the separate parts and the scores (GitHub)



Results

2. Workflow:

- Allows for the **semi-automatic transcription** of mensural music from digital images of manuscripts in mensural notation
- **Applicable** to other mensural music sources
- It considers the use of DIY tools and free, online, and open software to be as accessible as possible to **institutions with limited resources**



Results and Contributions

- Case study in the use of open-source tools in music digitization and encoding
- Example of bringing projects and researchers together for a common goal
- Contributed to the development of various mensural-notation projects of the Music Encoding Community
 - [MuRET](#), [MP Editor](#), [Humdrum **mens](#) and [humlib](#)
 - Improve individual tools
 - Allow for their interoperability
- Reusability of this digitization and encoding method by other scholars, archives, and libraries
- Pedagogical use and involvement of students in preservation of these books

Papers Regarding this Work

- **Digitization:** Thomae, Martha E., Julie E. Cumming, and Ichiro Fujinaga. "Digitization of Choirbooks in Guatemala." In *Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Digital Libraries for Musicology*, pp. 19-26. 2022.
- **Measuring Polyphony Editor (MP Editor) & Scoring Up:** Desmond, Karen. "Next Steps for Measuring Polyphony: A Prototype Editor for Encoding Mensural Music." In *Music Encoding Conference 2020*. 2020.
- **Interoperability work – MuRET (OMR) and Dissonance Filter integration into the MP Editor:** Desmond, Karen, Laurent Pugin, Juliette Regimbal, David Rizo, Craig Sapp, and Martha E. Thomae. "Encoding Polyphony from Medieval Manuscripts Notated in Mensural Notation." (2022).
- **Dissonant Filter use in the MP Editor:** Thomae, Martha E., Julie E. Cumming, and Ichiro Fujinaga. "Counterpoint error-detection tools for optical music recognition of Renaissance polyphonic music." In *Proceedings of the 23rd International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference (ISMIR)*. 2022.

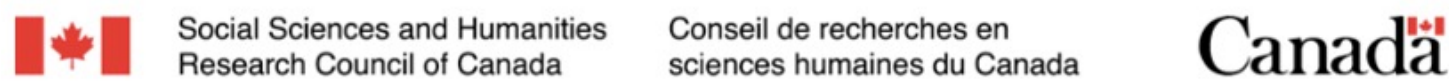
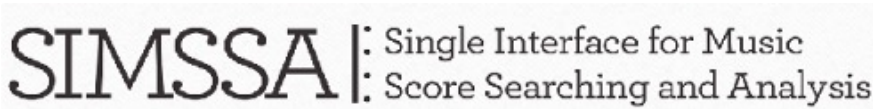
Acknowledgements

This collaborative project would not have been possible without the support from:

- **Archivo Histórico Arquidiocesano de Guatemala (AHAG)** for granting permission for the project
- **Omar Morales Abril**, Guatemalan musicologist that provided me with advice and information about the choirbooks
- **Alejandro Conde**, AHAG's archivist that supported and facilitated the project
- **José German Thomae Villela** for constructing the cradle
- **Darryl Cameron** for lending the copystand
- **Daniel Hernández-Salazar** for setting the camera parameters
- **Distributed Digital Music Archives and Libraries (DDMAL) Lab at McGill University** for lending the lights and other parts of the equipment
- **Marvin Duchow Music Library at McGill University** for lending the camera
- **Centro de Rescate, Estudio y Análisis Científico del Arte (CREA)** for the conservation assessment of the collection and the conservation treatment of the choirbook

Acknowledgements

- **Julia Craig-McFeely** and **Lynda Sayce** (DIAMM), **Jessica Régimbald**, **Marie-Chantal Anctil**, and **Michel Legendre** (BAnQ), and **Gregory Houston** (McGill Library) for their advice regarding digitization and conservation of special collections
- **David Rizo**, **Karen Desmond**, and **Juliette Regimbal** who made possible for MuRET and the MP-Editor to communicate with one another
- **Craig Stuart Sapp** whose work allowed for the dissonance labels to be displayed in the MP-Editor
- **Jorge Calvo-Zaragoza**, **Francisco Castellanos**, **Antonio Ríos Vila**, and **José Manuel Iñesta** who developed the models used in MuRET
- **Laurent Pugin** for his work on Verovio
- **Alexander Morgan** for his Renaissance dissonance labeler script
- **Peter Schubert** for his expert advice in counterpoint matters
- **Geneviève Gates-Panneton** for her work in the experiment
- My **supervisors**: **Julie Cumming** and **Ichiro Fujinaga**



Thank you!

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