

Receptions of French Liturgical Music

in Bohemia and Central Europe in the High Middle Ages

Academic Conference Centre, Czech Academy of Sciences Husova 4a, 110 00, Prague 1 24.–26. November 2025

Monday 24. 11. 2025

14:00–14:15	Opening (greetings from the Czech Academy of Sciences)
14:15–14:45	Introduction (Hana Vlhová-Wörner - Konstantin Voigt)
	SESSION I: HISTORY AND POLITICS IN 13TH-CENTURY BOHEMIA
	Chair: Eva Doležalová
14:45–15:15	Robert Antonín French traces in medieval Bohemia during the reign of the last Přemyslids
15:15–15:45	David Trojan The Bohemian clergy in contact with Western Europe during the 13th century
15:45–16:15	Martin Slepička French saints, their cult and influence on musical culture in high medieval Bohemia
	Coffee Break
	SESSION II: LITURGICAL BOOKS OF DEAN VÍT
	Chair: David Eben
16:45–17:15	Marta Hradilová Codicological perspectives on the manuscripts of Dean Vít
17:15–17:45	Kateřina Kubínová
	The manuscripts of Dean Vít from an art-historical viewpoint
17:45–18:15	Hana Vlhová-Wörner
	Troped lessons in the Lectionary of Dean Vít

Tuesday 25. 11. 2025	
·	SESSION III: NOTATIONS AND REPERTORIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE
	Chair: Konstantin Voigt
10:30–11:00	Gabriela Gilányi French influence in the Pray Codex: A music palaeographical perspective
11:00–11:30	Irina Chachulska Tracing French influences in music notations in Polish Sources up to 1300
11:30–12:00	Eva Veselovská Early staff notations of the Augustinian Abbey in Klosterneuburg on example of fragments
12:00–12:30	Zsuzsa Czagány Traces of Norman influence in 12th–13th-century Hungarian liturgy and chant
	Coffee Break
	SESSION IV (WORKSHOP): MANUSCRIPTS
9:00-10:00	Rhianydd Hallas and Gionata Brusa 13th-century notated manuscripts from Bohemia
	Lunch
	SESSION V: ART
	Chair: Jan Dienstbier
14:00–14:30	Jan Klípa Goldsmithery as one of the witnesses of the French-Bohemian contacts in 13th century
14:30–15:00	Lenka Panušková The decoration and circulation of manuscripts in St. George's monastery, 13th–14th Centuries
15:00–15:30	Aleš Mudra References to the Sainte-Chapelle in medieval Bohemia.
15:30–16:00	Klára Benešovská

Coffee Break

Réception de l'architecture écclésiastique française en Bohême de XII-XIIIe siècle?

Problèmes générales et exemples concrets

Chair: Catherine Bradley

16:30–17:00 Margot Fassler

Transmission and theological themes in an early Bohemian

sequence collection

17:00-17:30 Gionata Brusa

Transfers of sequences from France to Bohemia.

17:30–18:00 Agnieszka Budzińska-Bennett

Cracow fragments: A new source for conductus by

Philip the Chancellor

18:00–18:30 Anne-Zoé Rillon-Marne

Parisian conductus in the east, a degenerated tradition?

Wednesday 26. 11. 2025

SESSION VII: VISITATIO SEPULCHRI AND PLANCTUS

Chair: Charles Atkinson

9:00–9:30 Susan Rankin

The reception and transformation of dramatic liturgy

at St. George's Prague

9:30–10:00 Eliška Kubartová and Laura Albiero

Voices of Sorrow: Text and melody in the Planctus ante nescia

Coffee Break

SESSION VIII: POETIC GENRES

Chair: Suan Rankin

10:30–11:00 Catherine Bradley

Benedicamus Domino tropes at St George's, Prague:

New concordances, new questions

11:00–11:30 Konstantin Voigt

European Benedicamus song-cultures around 1200 and

the collections from St. George's, Prague

11:30–12:00 David Eben

The Poetic Repertoire of the Ostrov Codex

12:00–13:00 CLOSING DISCUSSION

TOPIC

The influence of French repertoires on liturgical music in Bohemia in the 13th century is a characteristic but hitherto not systematically researched aspect of Central European music history. Traces of French repertoires can be found in tropes for the Mass and the Benedicamus Domino, in Office chants, as well as in troped lessons and sequences, with evidence mainly coming from St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague and St. George's Monastery at Prague Castle.

In some cases, the constellations of transmission suggest direct connections between Bohemia and France, in other cases they fit into the larger picture of the spread and adaptation of 12th-century French culture east of the Rhine, so that ultimately both Bohemia's relations with its Central European and South German neighbours and the political and ecclesiastical networks in which agents of transfers are likely to have moved need to be examined. Recent studies on medieval church history point, for example, to the Bishop of Olomouc, Robert (1202–1240), whose possible English origin and studies in Paris could explain contacts between contemporary Western liturgical and Bohemia.

Since relationships in the field of liturgical culture do not concern music alone, but also architecture, book decoration and other crafts, and since transfers of liturgical repertoires are usually linked to political and institutional power, the conference aims to evaluate the relationships between France, Bohemia and its Central European neighbours in an interdisciplinary context. This broader panorama promises differentiations to models of historiography, which evaluate centres and peripheries by their participation in abstract global innovation, rather than asking about the overall specifics of local cultures and institutions in which transfer and acculturation took place.

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