Emanuel Adriaenssen Antwerpen, ca 1554-1604

Almande Prince, from Pratum musicum 1584

arr. Arnold den Teuling / Jan Kok















This almand is one of the old versions of the later (1932) Dutch national anthem Wilhelmus (prince of Orange). Originally the song was a militant song praising William of Orange-Nassau, leader of the revolution of the Netherlands in the freedom war against Spain. The heart of the revolution originally was Flanders, but it shifted to the Northern parts of the Netherlands after the reconquest of Antwerp by the Spanish king in 1586. The song was included in the Pratum Musicum (meant for the lute), printed in Antwerp in 1584, but was removed from the reprint in 1592, obviously for political reasons.

The song has always been very popular. Young Mozart made piano variations (K25) on a changed melody with changed rhythm, the so called Prince's March.

I followed the measure division as indicated by the bar lines in the lute tablature according to the editon in Monumenta Belgicae Musicae X (1966) by Godelieve Spiessens.