

ABSTRACT

The master thesis focuses on a neumed breviary, which presently resides in the Czech National Library under the signature VI.E.4c. The source, originally from the library of women's Benedictine monastery of St. George at the Prague Castle, dates from the middle of 12th century and is the oldest neumed manuscript from the convent. However, it is not clear where it was created and for whom. The breviary might have been intended for the convent from the beginning or got to its library later. Therefore, the main aim of this work is to find out the provenance of the codex.

The first chapter deals with the physical description of the manuscript. Especially the musical-palaeographic aspects are inspected, both the original and younger (written usually in margins). The newly discovered fragment XXIV.A.65, which originally belonged to the breviary, is also investigated. With the use of these aspects, the possibilities of the source's provenance are specified.

The content of the breviary is examined in the second chapter. The single sections of the manuscript are described: calendar, tonary, Commune Sanctorum and the liturgical year itself. The chapter also mentions some of the typical specifics, which appeared during the work at the musical-liturgical index of the third and fourth section of the breviary, which was created for the Cantus database.

The most extensive is the third chapter of the thesis: it is engaged with the analysis and comparison of the breviary with other sources of various type, age and location. The comparison of the individual offices specifies the level of the influence of various provenances at the manuscript's content, and also the level of continuity of the office tradition in the St. George's repertory. These analyses solve the question of the breviary's provenance most accurately.

Keywords: plainchant, Middle Ages, musical manuscripts, office, 12th century, St. George convent, Hirsau