Ezra Pound Papers YCAL MSS 43 Box 68, folder 2976

Series IV. Manuscripts

Arnaut Daniel
Typescript, original and carbon / n.d.

En Ar. Daniel was of Riberrac 2012 in Perigord , under -emosi and near Hautfort, and he was the best fashioner of songs in the Provencal, as Dante has said of him in his Purgatorio (26. 140), and Tasso says it was he wrote Lancillotto , but this is not known for certain but Dante says only proze di romanzi , end Cenvenuto da Imola if R. a. A speaks for certain , when he says Er Arment went in his age to a monastery and sent a poem to the princes , nor if he wrote a satire on But here are some of his poems , all that are known to be left us, and he was very cunning in his immitation of brids, as in the poem ! Autet, where he stops in the middle of his singing crying, Cadahus , en son us, as a bird cries, and rhyming on it cleverly, with no room to turn about on the words , Mas pel us , estauc clus , and in the other versets. And in in Laura Amara", the next poet he cries as the birds in the autumn,, and there is some of this also in his best poem , Doutz brake e crity.

And in Brile brisaral, he immitates maybe the rough singing of the joglar engles, from whom he learnt ac at no lac, those some read this escomes, not engles, though it is like enough that being at the court of En Richart there might an English joglar, for En Rertrans calls Richarts brother, joven re Engles, so why should the there not be a jojlar of the same, knowing alliterations.

And he may in the ending piula, have in mind some sort of arabic singing. For he knew well letters, in Language, d'Oc and in latin, and whenew Ovid, of whom he takes Atalanta, and maybe Virgil, as is shown in a note, and he talks of the Palux erna, though most of the copyers have writ this Uzerna, not known the place that as not now the Arabic music, and perhaps had heard if he understood not the meaning, ome song in rough saxon letters.

And by making song in rimas escarsas he let into provenced poetry many words that are not found elsewhere, marke some words that are not found elsewhere, and his songs are in some versest wholly free and uneven the whole length of the verse, the other five verse follows ing in the free track make by the first one, for most times he does not rhyme inside the stanza. And in this he is very cunning, and has many uneven and beautiful rhythms, and if a man try to read him like English lambic will very often go wrong , thom En Arnaut made the firt piece of "blank verse" in the seven lines of "Sols sui" he may be in thinning out the rhymes and having six repetitions to a Canzon, made a way for Dante who but made his long poem in threes. But this much is certain, doed not use -atge and many other common rhymes of Provencal whereby so many canzon are all alike and monotonous on one or two sound from end to beginning.

And I do not give wac et no lac', for its is plainly told us that he learnt this song from a joglar, and the he says as much in his Coda,

Miles de hen

sit pren arnaut frazida, C Arnart non s oblida. To wit: Give thanks to Arnaut, that he did not forget it. And the matter went as a joke, and the song was given · to Arnaut, to sing in his repertoire, , e for donat lo canzos a En Arnaut et aisi lo trobaretz en sa obra. And I do not give the tenzon with Trucs Malecs, for reasons clear to all who have read it, not the Sestina, . it is a poor one, but maybe it is interesting think if the music will not go through its permutation the words change in their places. so I give one verse and the music. The Po find line too one 8 yelabled. he was the best artist among the Provencals , trying the speech for new fashions, and bringing new words into writing, and making new blendings of words, so that he he taught much to Pessire Ante Allighierei , as you will see if ou star En Arnaut , and, The De Vulgari Eloquio , And when Dante was older had had thought the thing over (well he said simply Wil miglior fabbro . And long before Francesco Petrarca he had though of the catch about Laura, laura, L. Aura, and the rest of it, which is no great thing to his credit. But no man in Provencal has written as he writes in Doutz Braitz 1, WE quel remir ! and the rest of it, though in Ovid in the hunting by aledon . it is written .

Velamina candida purperuem . etc.

And In Tante we have much in the style of des Rozers, per 1 agua que 1'engrois. +10 000 M

and follows him. I had once though the mantle of indigo a thing seen in a vision. It is like men have slandered Arnaut for Junte's having put him in purgatorio, but the Trucs Malecs is against This,

And En Armaut often ends a conzon with a verse in a different tone, as have marked in S. fos Amors, buy leaving the last verse out of ryme. And in Briue Brisaral, the music is very curious, but is lost for us, for there are only two pieces of ucis, those in Milan at the Amrbosiana (R.71 superiore), and I have not rhymed Brisaral, for the wished the rest of it to be more clearly looked at.

And at the end of Doutz Brais, is a verset, like the verset of a Sirvente, and this what he wrote as a message,

not making a whole sirvente, we so far as is known, dabbiling in politics or writing of it, as kertrans de Born has. Only in this one place, in all that is left us. And he was a joular, perhaps for his living, and only composed when he would, and could not to order, as is shown in the story of his remembering the joglars canzon, when he had laid a wager to make one of his own.

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when - wote his poems in English some years ago, and they were little use, but diagramsatic, showing how the rhymes ran in the En Arnaut, but having no quality, and I was bit by the obsession to translate and syntax rather than the sense. But now with the Lavauds edition there is no need for word for word literality.

Can Chai la fueilla is more a se a song or an estampida, though the editors call it a canzon. And Amors e jois, was so little thought of, that only two writers have copied it out in the manuscripts. And the songs are all different one from another. And their value is nothing near even. But can chai la fuelija is very cleverly made with five, six, and four and seven . And in Sols sui , the verse is syllabic , and made not by stresses. on the number of syllables, as happens elsewhere, and can not be understood by thouse of Pietra mala, who imagine that the language they speak what that spoken by Adam, and that one system of metric was made in the work beginning, and has since existed unaltered. And some think if the stress fall not on every second beat or the third, they must have right before Constantine. Such doddards write in the quarterly , a dung heap of abonination.

and the art of En Ar Daniel is not literature but the art of fitting words well with music, well nigh a lost art, and if one will look to the music of Can chai L Jueilla one will see paid of that which I mean, and if one will look to the falling of the rhymes in other poems, and the blending and the lengthening of the sounds, and their sequence, one will learn more of this. And En Arnaut wrote in 1180, to 1200, as near as we can make out, when the provenced was growing weary, and it was to be if it could last, and he tried to make an almost new language, or at least to enlarge the

and make new things possible. And this scarcely happened till Guinicelli, and Gudior Canvalacanti and Ante, but Peire Cardinal, went to realism, and made satirical poems.

But the art of singing to music Went well nigh out of the works, for Mtastasio has left a few catches, and so Lorenzo di Medici, but the Pel Canto of ...

the music of ...

turns the words out of doors and strews them and distorts them to the music out of all recognition, and the philosophic canzoni of Dante and his timesmen, are not understandable if they are are sung, and in their time music and policy parted company, the canzonis tune becoming a sonata, without singing.

And the Ballade is a shorter form, and the Elizabethan singing are but scraps and bits of canzoni, much asin the Aimles, people and Scraps of Swixforme.

Charles D rheans were good rouncels and so also roissart
Dieu qui la fait . and

Qt. froissart . /

And Campion was the last . but in mone of these later men is there the care and thought of En Arnaut for the blending of words sung out . And none of them succeded, as indeed he had not succeded in reviviving and makeing permanent an art form, of poetry to be sung out.

But none of these have though so of the sound of the words, nor had, I think Dante Aligheiri, when he wrote De Eloquio,

. And we find in provence beautiful poems,

as by Vidal when he sings.

Ab 1 alen tir vas me - Aire.

And by the Vicount of St Antoni,

Nor among the provencals, assercess was there anyone, nor had Pante though out an aesthetic of sound, of clear sounds and opaque sounds, such as in Sals sui, an opaque sound, like Swinburne at his best and in Doutz Brais, and a ura amara, a clear sound, with staccato and of heavy beats, and of running and light beats heavy in Can chaila fueilla. No do we notice enough how with his drollery in places he is nearly Chaucer than to the Italians, and indeed the rovencal is usually nearer english in feeling than it is to the italian, a softer humour, not a bitter tongue as have the italians in ridicule.

It is has been, I will not say an error of the lexicographers, for Emil Pevy has done such great service, by life of patience, and since the pulication of the life of patience, and since the pulication of the larger p.d. anyone can learn prov. in a week. it is no longer back breaking struggle. But the students have not taken though one the lexicographic terms are the lexicographics. though enough of the exact meaning of med. aesthetic terms. The very use of such sensuous words as pexa, hirsuta, lubrics, oily, shaggy, by dante to describe his words and their categories, is enough to show the precies feeling of ediaeval terminology. Would the age of Aquinas have been content with anything less. ??

jes Rozers, etc. precise meaning of metaphors and exact

description of psycho physico psychology by passes desire. T.E.H. more interested than in anything read in a book.

vide also my in rod . G.C.

The simple meaning of the next poem, is as follows. qt. Xi.

I leave this prose as I wrote it seven years ago,
I did not at that time ttempt a metric version of the
Canzon. After the lapse of time, Id do not now attempt
a translation in form. There are so many interests,
techinical and metrical interests stronger that the rhymes
in this poem, that I am not prepared to sacrice them.
It seems at present impossible to do the thing right,
and likely to remain so until we find the unfindable
music to which the words were sung.

My trans. of six years since had no virtue save that of being diagramatic. They proved that the impossibility of the canzon in English was not due to an utter impossibility of getting rhymes. The rhymes wist in sufficiency.

Now I have had a chance to add a little onomatopoia, to copy a little the chirrup and quality of some of verses, and even to enrich as as the language of my versions, and in one or two places to bring them almost into the purlieu of art. In XI.

I am not yet come to that point. I can only indicate a few of the problems and speculations aroused by the poem.

I dont in the leat mean that tours de force, chirrups and twitters as in IX have anything to do with literature. But I have at least gone far enough to

know, where at first I had only suspected on instinct that the professors who contradicted Dante, were excessively rash.

I take up my present revision, entirely without the heat of my early fury. Still it is interesting that professors should have contradicted, if not the greatest poet that ever lives, at least one of the three half dozen greatest, and the only one of them who had ever studied provencal, or written it. And they rush in to call Dante stupid, or at least to say his remarks are unintelligible, without even looking at the art Arnaut Daniell

It is all quite professorial.

Let us pass the Giamour of the lamplight in XII.

Let us pass the sea-chatey surge of the movement in III.

Or the melody of RITTE XV, the first blank verse paragraphs. Let us consider Arnats achievement. The weight of the time that was there for his lifting.

The encumberance of the stanza of seven or eight lines wit with internal rhyme, abbacdde, or some such simplicity. in atge, etc.

The boredom of the ound after one has heard three hunder such canzos.

Yet in the last strophe of XI. we have, I think the accent of passion .

Pensar de lies m'es repaus . Thinking on her , have I repose .

It is a song that Dante knew well, vide the , agro in XVI Purg. as the Sols sui , gave him the melody of qui plor e vau cantan .

I take it that is not impossible that Arnaut in his set to with joglar Engles may have come on RAS alliterative anglo saxon poems , and that there may have been some taltalk of the craft.

The alliteration in XI. 1. might easily have resulted from it. As the leonine rhyme of piula and friula, might have resulted from trying to sing to some arabic melody; as Atalanta and Meleagar come undoubtedly from these melody; as Atalanta and Meleagar come undoubtedly from these melody; as Atalanta and Meleagar come undoubtedly from these melody; as Atalanta and Meleagar come undoubtedly from these melody;

There are here indications of something approaching a conscious approaching a culture, of something approaching a conscious effort to lift the art of the trombadour out of its former level.

Dante may have noticed these things, tho they be doubtless doubtless too tiny for the eye of lofty philologer. Who indeed is the philologer that he should take count of the art.

I have studied thes canzos as an artist, off and on fro some time. I am still stumped by the rhythms of XI. the cross rip. The music is lost. and without it (and even if we had I am not sure it would settle the matter) but without it I can not dognatize.

I can only give a translation containing the same no. of syllabs. as the orig. and hope it may stimulate the per eption of certain details in the orig. which hasty might escape the reader.

In this I am, as in ideed in all this edition, only chalking up my results, to the present,

My only preface, if I had written one, should be this is as far as I have yet carried my ranslation of Arnaut.

The litterary value of metricial tornate di forza is nil, nil precicley. There is however an art of fitting \$550 beautiful words into music. and it is to that art that the making of canzoni largely belongs. In L aura amara, one may by reading guess something of music. the strophe is one half the immitation of bird notes, the other half a suggen sinking of pitch, lowering of the voice,

in a wide out sweep,
in isincerity, the real feeling beneath the bright show.

Els letz becs dels auzels ramencs
ten balbs
e mutx
pars
e non pars,

and in contrast que m'a virat bas d'haut

sils fans nom asoma In VIII the bird cry comes in the middle of the strophe cadahus en son us

estauc clus,

all these obviously soft and staccato.

William Allingham in "the lover and the birds" has made an almost unique attempt at this sort of this, for English.

I do not intrude a judgement, for the comparison need not e made a court martial.

With Arnaut there are two questions. 1. How much is stream and permanent poetry , or lovely and lasting .

2. What actual weight did he lift. What were his gift to the art, his inventions and discoveries,

in com arison to those of any of his contemporari

Five years ago I should have dogmatized and said, it is rubbish to conserve mention quel de limozi etc.

Now I am content to ask the philologer to try at leass to understand a little of Arnauts art, before telling us that Dante was no judge of the matter.

There charming passages in at least two dizen troubadours. Even old rebezieus elephant has just h d his haibits confirmed by a Zoo keeper.

Still there are beautiful lines in Arnaut, lines of complete clarity and simplicity.

There are line and not so few in A. like nothing elese I have found in other troubadours. But I have not get read all the poems of ITEREBRE the toubadours (nor has anyone else now living) unless it be Dr Levy.

I think however it will be difficult for them to find Arnaut's match , NOT in mere t tornate de forza , but in a steady attack and analysis of the basic problems of the art of sung poetry .

The whole problem of keeping alive, of keeping interesting an art that was falling, or had fallen into stereotype and monotony.

or two or three d cades ?

Note that Dante does not solve the problem. The Commedia does not solve the problem. The Italian philosophic Canzoni did not solve the problem.

The solution came with the Pallade, in a way, and with the Elizabethans in a way.

By a cutting down of the form. It ws a beautiful fading. And Campion was the last chapter.

The nineties did to Swinburne what these did

to the canzoni. instead of six strophes with one or two fine one passages, or with two good strophe to a cano canzon, they learned to cut out the two good strophes.

But the art grows slight and diminishes.

Arnaut . a liberator .

WARNING

The mss. of these versions, sent toward America some months ago was, in the language of the post office, "SREE DE ESERGE " lost through enemy action ", coming again upon my earlier drafts my first feeling is one Jacute distress. Were I to print only the english translations as can give pleasure on first reading to anyone of any literary sense whatsoever. I should not print over two or three. The phrasing in places is appalling, clumsy, wooden, unbearable. Living among enemies and in a time where every serious attempt to heighten aesthetic susceptibilities is exposed to open and unashamed hat fred, I am even more rash than usual in permitting the imprint of this booklet . is not to be supposed that I in six months or six years can recreate in English a techique which took two centuries and two hundered troubadours to establish. Still there is an aesthetic of rhyme more developed and developable past than might be discorred from English metric , there is even a pleasure to ear in coming on a fine fifth rhyme where the preparation has been made in four preceding void of any signal felicity.

The stuff can be of no interest whatsoever, save to and the serious lyrist \$2222 serious metrician. Fetrarcha when he thought of a single good line, used it to start off a sonnet; the next generation, wearied with this obvious weakness used to write the good line at the end,

at the bottom of their parchment, and then fill in the thirteen preceding.

Insert at a .

and in a time when not one poem in two hundred is read aloud often enough for anyone, including the author, to learn what it sounds like; and when not one poem in two thousand -- even among supposed lyrics or singable poems -- is set to music.

THEREBURESEE These translations for the most part are no more works of art than are so many porpositions in a text-book of physics; they are research into an obscure part of aural aesthetics. They are not presented as achievement but as a possible instigation.

The fact that I have used a wretched and mesquin jargon in L'Aura Amara and Autet e bas, does not prove that the forms, or form using a similar series of echos could not be used in english, where one were free of bound only by the exegencies of the form everthing save

obligation to translate a provenced meaning. Even my own earlier canzoni were an improvement on the translations I was able to make at that time.

When sere leaf falleth from the high forked tips, And cold appalleth dry osier , haws and hips , Coppiee he strips of bird, that now none calleth. Fordel my lips in love have, though he galleth .

Though all things freeze here I can naught feel the cold, For new love sees here
my hearts new leaf unfold;

So am I rolled

and lapped against the breeze here: Love who

my force , force guarantees here.

where joy his maintainance tis why thing hath danced never my dance

I can advance no blame against fate's tithing For lot kanna chance have deemed the best thing my thing.

love's wayfaring I know no part to blame , other paring, compared, is put to shame, can acclaim no second for comparing With her, no dame but hath the meaner bearing.

I'ld n'eer entangle my heart with other LALERS fere Although I mangle my joy by staying here I have no fear that ever at Pontrangle You'll find her peer or one that's worth a wrangle .

I'ld ne ez

She'd ne'er destroy

her man with cruelty

Twixt here n' Savoy

there feeds no fairer she,

Than pleaseth me

till Paris had ne'er joy

In such degree

from felena of Troy.

She's so the rarest

who holdeth me thus gay,
The thirty fairest
can not contest her sway
'Tis right par fay
thou know, O song that wearest
Such bright array,
whose quality thou sharest.

Chancon, nor stay
till to her thou declarest:
Arnaut would say
me not, wert thou not fairest.

"Can chai la fueilla" is interesting for its rhythm, for the sea-chantey swing produced by simple device of && caesurae:

Can chai la fueilla
dels ausors entrecims,

El freitz s'ergueilla
don sechal vais' el vims,

Dels dous refrims
vei sordezir la brueilla;

Mas leu soi prims
d'amor, qui que s'en tueilla.

The poem does not keep the same rhyme throughout, and the only reason for giving the whole of it in my English dither is that one can not get the effect of the thumping and iterate foot-beat from one or two strophes.

LANCAN SON PASSAT LI GIURE

When the frosts are gone and over,
And are stripped from hill and hollow,
When in close the blossom blinketh
From the spray where the fruit cometh,
The flower and song and the clarion
Of the season sweet and merry
Bid me with high joy to bear me
Through days while April's coming on.

Though joy's right hard to discover,
Such sly ways doth false Love follow,
Only sure he never drinketh
At the fount where true faith hometh;
A thousand girls, and hardly one the falsehoods over chary,
Stabbing whom vows make unwary
Their tenderness is vilely done.

The most wise runs drunkest lover,
Sans pint-pot or wine to swallow,
If a whim her locks unlinketh,
One stray hair his noose becometh.
When evasion's fairest shown
Then the sly puss purrs most near ye.
Innocents at heart be ware ye,
When she seems colder than a nun.

See, I thought so highly of her!
Trusted, but the game is hollow.
Not one won piece soundly clinketh;
All the cardinals that Rome hath,
Yea they all were put upon.
Her device is "Slyly Wary".
Cunning are the snares they carry,
Yet while they watched they'd be undone.

Whom Love makes so mad a rover,
'Ll take a cuckoo for a swallow,
If she say so, sooth ! he thinketh
There's a plain where Puy-de-Dome is.
Till his eyes and nails are gone,
He'll --throw dice and follow fairly
--Sure as old tales never vary -For his fond heart he is foredone.

Well I know, sans writing's cover,
What a plain is, what's a hollow.
I know well whose honour sinketh,
And who 'tis that shame consumeth.
They meet. I lose reception.
Gainst this cheating I'd not parry,
Nor amid such false speech tarry,
But from her lordship will be gone.

Coda

Sir Bertran, sure no pleasure's won Like this freedom, naught so merry Twixt Nile 'n' where the suns miscarry To where the rain falls from the sun.

twist

Translation left over from 1911. It illustrates the simpler "lyric" measures of Provence from which the English "Elizabethan" livic measures are derived. If Canello means the order of the canzos in his edition to be chronological we may also say that it illustrates Arnaut's earlier and less interesting mode.

Lancan son passat" shows the simple and presumably early style of Arnaut, with the kind of reversal from more or less trochaic to more or less lambic movement in fifth and eighth lines, a kind of rhythm taken over by Elizabethan lyricists. Terms trochaic and lambic are however utterly inaccurate when applied to syllabic metres set to a particular melody:

Lancan son passat li giure
E noi reman puois ni comba,
Et el verdier la flors trembla
Sus el entrecim on poma,
La flors e li chan eil clar quil
Ab la sazon doussa e coigna
M'enseignon c'ab joi maapoigna,
Sai al temps de l'intran d'April.

"<u>Cadahus</u> En son us "

Now high and low, where leaves renew, Come buds on bough and spalliard pleach And no beak nor throat is muted, Auzel each in time contrasted

Letteth loose
Wriblis spruce.
Joy for them and spring would set Song on me, but Love assaileth
Me and sets my words t' his dancing.

I thank my God and mine eyes too, Since through them the perceptions reach Porters of joys that have refuted Every ache and shame I've tasted. They reduce Pains, and noose Me in Amor's corded net. Her beauty in me prevaileth Till bonds seem but joy's advancing.

My thanks , Amor , that I win through;
Thy long delays I naught impetch;
Though flame 's in my marrow rooted
I'd not quench it , well 't hath lasted',
Burns profute,
Held recluse
Lest knaves know our hearts are met.
Murrain on the mouth that aileth,
So he finds her not entrancing.

He doth in Love's book misconstrue,
And from that book none can him teach,
Who saith ne'er's in speech recruited
Aught whereby the heart is dasted.
Words' abuse
Doth traduce
Worth, but I run no such debt.
Right 'tis in man over-raileth
He tear tongue on tooth mischancing.

loriblis = warblings.

ford niote

That I love her, is pride, is true, But my fast secret knows no breach. Since Paul's writ was executed Or the forty days first fasted, Not Cristus Could produce
Her similar, where one can get Charms total, for no faileth Her who s memory's enhancing.

- charm

Grace and valour, the keep of you She is, who holds me, each to each, She sole, I sole, so fast suited, Other women's pullures are wasted, And no truce But misuse
Have I for them, they're not let To my heart, where she regaleth Me with delights I'm not chancing.

Arnaut loves, and ne'er will fret
Love with o'er-speech, his throat quaileth,
BREGGEREERROUSERERERERE,
Braggart voust is naught of his fancy.