

Missa L'homme armé Discography

Compiled by Jerome F. Weber

This discography of almost forty Masses composed on the *cantus firmus* of *L'homme armé* (twenty-eight of them currently represented) makes accessible a list of this group of recordings not easily found in one place. A preliminary list was published in *Fanfare* 26:4 (March/April 2003) in conjunction with a recording of Busnoys's Mass. The composers are listed in the order found in Craig Wright, *The Maze and the Warrior* (Cambridge and London: Harvard University Press, 2001), p. 288; the list is alphabetical within broad eras. In particular, he discusses Du Fay (pp. 175ff.), Regis (pp. 178ff.), the Naples Masses (pp. 184ff.), and Josquin des Prez (pp. 188ff.).

Richard Taruskin, "Antoine Busnoys and the *L'Homme armé* Tradition," *Journal of AMS*, XXXIX:2 (Summer 1986), pp. 255-93, writes about Busnoys and the Naples Masses, suggesting (pp. 260ff.) that Busnoys's Mass is the earliest of the group and that the Naples Masses are also by him. Fabrice Fitch, *Johannes Ockeghem: Masses and Models* (Paris, 1997, pp. 62ff.), suggests that Ockeghem's setting is the earliest. Craig Wright, *op. cit.* (p. 175), calls Du Fay's the first setting. Alejandro Planchart, *Guillaume Du Fay* (Cambridge, 2018, p. 594) firmly calls Du Fay and Ockeghem the composers of the first two Masses, jointly commissioned by Philip the Good in May 1461.

For a discussion of Taruskin's article, see *Journal of AMS*, XL:1 (Spring 1987), pp. 139-53 and XL:3 (Fall 1987), pp. 576-80. See also Leeman Perkins, "The *L'Homme armé* Masses of Busnoys and Ockeghem: A Comparison," *Journal of Musicology*, 3 (1984), pp. 363-96, and Richard Taruskin, *The Oxford History of Western Music* (2005), I: 483-500. For a study of the Masses by Josquin and Morales, see Joseph Sargent, "Morales, Josquin and the *L'homme armé* Tradition," in *Early Music History* 30 (2011), pp. 177-212. The relation of Tinctoris to Busnoys is discussed in Emily Zazulia, "Composing in Theory: Busnoys, Tinctoris, and the *L'homme armé* Tradition," *Journal of AMS*, 71:1 (Spring 2018), pp. 1-73.

Kevin N. Moll discusses the series of works broadly in "Streaming Music into Renaissance Studies: The Case of *L'homme armé*," *Explorations in Renaissance Culture*, 43 (2017), pp. 109-39.

Twenty-three of the Masses have been recorded complete, but only four have been recorded more than twice (Du Fay, Ockeghem, two by Josquin des Prez). The recordings are arranged chronologically, citing conductor, ensemble, and date of recording if known. Following is the issued format (78, 45, LP, MC, CD, SACD), the label and the issue number(s).

Additions and corrections may be conveyed to the compiler for inclusion in a revised version of the work. Go to Chantdiscography.com and click on 'contact us'. A scan of a CD booklet that provides needed data would be invaluable.

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October 2017; revised December 2018. In the same series: discographies of composers and subjects ranging from the 12th to the 16th centuries.

1450s to 1480s

Anonymous

Missa L'homme armé (3vv.) (Bologna, MS Q16)
not recorded

Philippe Basiron (c.1449–91)

Missa L'homme armé
not recorded

Antoine Busnoys (c.1430–92)

Missa L'homme armé

Bruno Turner, Pro Cantione Antiqua (rec. 1978.05.08-10)

LP: Archiv 2533 404

CD: Archiv 445 667-2

Andrew Kirkman, Binchois Consort (rec. 2001.06.19-21)

CD: Hyperion CDA 67319

Caron (?–?) *see appendix, p. 9; his dates are commonly cited as “flourished from 1460 to 1475”*

Missa L'homme armé

The Sound and the Fury (rec. 2008.11.)

CD: ORF. SACD 3057

The Sound and the Fury (rec. 2011.05.-09.) (*using Jaap van Benthem's edition*)

CD: Fra Bernardo 1207302

Kyrie only Paul Van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. (rec. 2015.07.09-10) [2:50]

CD: Sony/Deutsche Harmonia Mundi 8875143472

Guillaume Du Fay (1397–1474)

Missa L'homme armé

- Kyrie only* Guillaume de Van, Paraphonistes de St. Jean des Matines *n/i* (rec. 1942.03.05)
78: Voix de son Maître W 1513 [mx.2LA 3721]
Roger Blanchard, Vocal Ens. *with trombones* (rec. 1956.01.31 – 02.01-02)
[3:58, 7:45, 11:14, 8:19, 6:47]
LP: Ducretet-Thomson 320 C 108; Telefunken LT 6595
The third complete Mass by Du Fay.
- Alden Gilchrist, Berkeley Chamber Singers *n/i* (rec. c.1965) [3:47, 7:33, 10:57, 8:33, 5:31]
LP: Lyrichord LLST 7150; Oryx 722; Alpha DB 147
The fifth complete Mass by Du Fay.
- Kyrie I and Agnus III* Wesley Morgan, Southern Illinois U. Collegium Musicum *n/i*
(c.1968) [1:09, 2:28]
LP: Pléiades P 251
- Kyrie I and Agnus III* Denis Stevens, Accademia Monteverdiana *n/i*
(rec. 1969.06.21 – 07.24) [1:08, 2:38]
LP: Musical Heritage Society OR 437-39
- Credo only* Richard Taruskin, Columbia University Collegium Musicum *n/i*
(rec. 1971.05) [8:37]
LP Collegium JE 109-10
- Johannes Hömberg, Pro Musica Ens. Köln *w/i* (rec. 1974.02.)
[4:50, 8:25, 12:21, 8:27, 7:52]
LP *quad*: Candide QCE 31094; VOX 36031
- Kyrie only* Daniel Meier, Da Camera ens. (rec. 1976.10) [3:32]
LP: Arion ARN 38396; Peters PLE 068
- Paul Hillier, Hilliard Ens. *n/i* (rec. 1986.01.07-09) [4:06, 8:01, 11:36, 8:05, 6:43]
CD: EMI. CDC 7 47628-2
- Jeremy Summerly, Oxford Camerata *n/i* (rec. 1994.04.04-05)
[4:56, 8:56, 12:47, 10:09, 8:23]
CD: Naxos 8.553058
Kyrie only CD: Naxos 8.558057 “Leonardo da Vinci”
- Sanctus only* Jordi Savall, Hespèrion XX *instrumental* (reissue, 1997) [2:05]
CD: Fontalis ES 9904 “Moyen Âge & Renaissance”
- Rachid Safir, Les Jeunes Solists *n/i* (rec. 1997.09.11-17) [3:26, 6:27, 9:53, 6:54, 6:58]
CD: Grave GRCD 6
- Kyrie only* Marnix De Cat, Capilla Flamenca *w/i* (rec. 2010.12. & 2011.01.) [4:06]
CD: Musique en Wallonie MEW 1157 “Espris d’amour”
- Sanctus only* Jordi Savall, Capella Reial de Catalunya *w/i* (rec. 2011.12.20-24) [3:59]
SACD: Alia Vox AVSA 9891 A+B
- Giuseppe Maletto, Cantica Symphonia *w/i* (rec. 2013.07.) [4:56, 8:41, 12:04, 8:34, 7:32]
CD: Glossa GCD P31907
- Jesse Rodin, Cut Circle *n/i* (rec. 2014.01.) [3:47, 7:17, 10:58, 8:04, 5:38]
CD: Musique en Wallonie MEW 1577-78

Guillaume Faugues (?–?) *his dates are commonly cited as “flourished from 1460 to 1475”*

Missa L’homme armé

The Sound and the Fury (rec. 2009.10.)

CD: ORF. CD 3115

Johannes Ockeghem (c.1410/25–97)

Missa L’homme armé

Gloria only Guillaume de Van, Paraphonistes de St-Jean-des-Matines *n/i* (rec. 1942.03.05)

78: Voix de son Maître W 1513 [mx.2LA 3722-2]

Kyrie only anonymous singers and players (issued 1966)

LP: Eterna 820 347 “1000 Jahre Musikgeschichte, vol. 1”

Kyrie only Fritz Hoyois, Brussels vocal ens. (issued 1969)

LP: Deutsche Grammophon 629517-18

Kyrie, Agnus Dei III only Howard M. Brown, U. of Chicago Collegium Musicum (c.1968)

LP: Pléiades P 251

Kyrie, Agnus Dei III only Denis Stevens, Accademia Monteverdiana Choir, Trinity Boys’

Choir *n/i* (rec. 1969.06.21 – 07.24)

LP: Musical Heritage Society OR 437-39

Alejandro Planchart, Cappella Cordina UCSB, Musica Antiqua *w/i* (issued 1981.11.)

LP: Musical Heritage Society MHS 4472

Peter Urquhart, Capella Alamire (rec. 1987.12. & 1988.05.)

CD: Musical Heritage Society MHS 512756

Maurice Bourbon, Ens. Vocal Coeli et Terra (rec. 1990.11.)

CD: Arion ARN 68149

Hans Grüss, Leipzig Thomanerknaben, Capella Fidicinia *w/i* (rec. 1996.08.-09.)

CD: Querstand VKJK 9609

Jeremy Summerly, Oxford Camerata (rec. 1997.01.13-14)

CD: Naxos 8.554297

Kyrie only CD: 8.556707

Credo only CD: 8.556708

Edward Wickham, Clerks’ Group (rec. 1999.02.1, 23)

CD: ASV. CD GAU 204

Credo only CD: Gaudeamus CD GAM 357 “The Essential Ockeghem”

The Sound and the Fury (rec. 2006.09.)

CD: ORF. 3024

Ens. Nusmido (rec. 2014.09.22-25)

CD: Rondeau 6106

Beauty Farm (rec. 2015.07.)

CD: Fra Bernardo 1701743

Johannes Regis (c.1425–1496)

Missa Dum sacrum mysterium/L'homme armé

Kevin Moll, Schola Discantus (rec. 1997.08.11-16)

CD: Lyrichord LEMS 8044

Edward Wickham, Clerks' Group (rec. 2007.08.27-30)

CD: Musique en Wallonie MEW 0848-0849

Missa L'homme armé: Strohm, *op. cit.*, p. 469: "Regis must have composed a lost 'L'homme armé' Mass . . . It was probably the work copied in Cambrai in 1462-3."

Johannes Tinctoris (c.1435–1511)

Missa L'homme armé

Edward Wickham, Clerks' Group (rec. 1997.04.30 – 05.03)

CD: Cyprès CYP 3608

Six anonymous Masses (*Naples, B.N., MS VI E 40*)

attributed to Busnoys by Judith Cohen (*The Six Anonymous L'Homme armé Masses in Naples, Biblioteca Nazionale, MS VI E 40*, American Institute of Musicology, 1968), Richard Taruskin (*op. cit.*, pp. 275ff.), and Craig Wright (*op. cit.*, pp. 184-88 and 282-87).

Mass I

Sanctus only Paul van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. *with instruments* (rec. 1989.10.)

CD: Sony SK 45860

Sanctus only Giuseppe Maletto, Cantica Symphonia *instrumental* (rec. 2008.07. & 10.)

CD: Glossa P31906 (*Fanfare* 33:4)

Mass II

Credo only Paul van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. *with instruments* (rec. 1989.10.)

CD: Sony SK 45860

Hosanna only Giuseppe Maletto, Cantica Symphonia *instrumental* (rec. 2008.07. & 10.)

CD: Glossa P31906 (*Fanfare* 33:4)

Mass III

Kyrie only Paul van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. *with instruments* (rec. 1989.10.)

CD: Sony SK 45860

Christe only Giuseppe Maletto, Cantica Symphonia *instrumental* (rec. 2008.07. & 10.)

CD: Glossa P31906 (*Fanfare* 33:4)

Mass IV

Sanctus only Paul van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. *with instruments* (rec. 1989.10.)

CD: Sony SK 45860

Hosanna only Giuseppe Maletto, Cantica Symphonia *instrumental* (rec. 2008.07. & 10.)

CD: Glossa P31906 (*Fanfare* 33:4)

Mass V

Credo & Agnus Dei only Paul van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. *with instruments* (rec. 1989.10.)

CD: Sony SK 45860

Agnus Dei I only Giuseppe Maletto, Cantica Symphonia *instrumental* (rec. 2008.07. & 10.)

CD: Glossa P31906 (*Fanfare* 33:4)

Mass VI

Credo only Paul van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. *with instruments* (rec. 1989.10.)

CD: Sony SK 45860

Giuseppe Maletto, Cantica Symphonia *with instruments* (rec. 2008.07. & 10.)

CD: Glossa P31906 (*Fanfare* 33:4)

1480s to 1520s

Juan de Anchieta (1462–1523)

Missa sine nomine/Missa quarti toni

Dario Tabbia, Corale Universitaria di Torino (rec. 1987.06.06,08 and 1987.10.20,30)

LP: Bongiovanni GB 5015

CD: Bongiovanni GB 5015 "*Missa quarti toni*"

Josep Cabré, Capilla Peñafloreda (rec. 2000.10.26-29)

CD: Naxos 8.555772 "*Missa sine nomine*"

Antoine Brumel (c.1460–c.1520)

Missa L'homme armé

not recorded

Loyset Compère (c.1450–1518)

Missa L'homme armé

not recorded

Mathurin Forestier (?–?) *his dates are commonly cited as "flourished around 1500" formerly attributed to Jean Mouton*

Missa L'homme armé

Jonathan Miller, Chicago A Cappella (rec. 1998.01.16-18)

CD: Centaur CRC 2420

Josquin des Prez (c.1455–1521)

Missa L'homme armé sexti toni

Jeremy Noble, Josquin Choir *n/i* (rec. 1971) [2:59, 5:52, 9:11, 4:58, 5:12]

LP: Bach Guild HM 3 SD

Peter Phillips, Tallis Scholars *n/i* (issued 1989) [3:39, 6:41, 9:34, 5:04, 8:02]

CD: Gimell CDGIM 019; 454919; CDGIM 206

Jeremy Summerly, Oxford Camerata *n/i* (rec. 1995.04.20-21) [4:22, 7:29, 10:35, 6:12, 9:04]

CD: Naxos 8.553428

Kyrie & Agnus Dei only CD: Naxos 8.558057 "*Leonardo da Vinci*"

Guy Janssens, Laudantes Consort *n/i* (rec. 1995.01.-06.) [3:45, 6:20, 9:35, 4:55, 7:05]

CD: Arsonor 004-2; Cyprès CYP 1630/3

Agnus Dei omitted Jean-Claude Lemieux, L'ens. de musique sacrée de Québec (rec. 1996.09.)
 CD: Imagine IMFD 2056
 Emmanuel Bonnardot, Ens. Obsidienne *n/i* (rec. 2000.07) [2:57, 6:06, 9:01, 4:31, 5:46]
 CD: Calliope CAL 9305; Phaia PHU 002
 Bernard Fabre-Garrus, A Sei Voci, Maîtrise des Pays de Loire *n/i* (rec. 2000.07.)
 [3:20, 6:12, 9:21, 4:52, 6:49]
 CD: Naïve E 8809
Agnus Dei III only Laurie Stras & Deborah Roberts, Musica Secreta *with inst.* (rec. 2007.05.01-04) [4:00]
 CD: Divine ART DDA 25062 "*Alessandro Grandi*"
Sanctus only Hendrik Vanden Abeele, Psallentes (rec. 2008.06.)
 CD: Eufoda 1372 "*Bellum et Pax*"
 Maurice Bourbon, Métamorphoses *n/i* (rec. 2009.08.28 – 09.01)
 [3:42, 6:18, 8:03, 5:07, 7:21]
 CD: Calliope CAL 9441 "*Josquin & Rome I, vol. 3*"

Missa L'homme armé super voces musicales

Gloria only Guillaume de Van, Les Paraphonistes de St-Jean des Matines (rec. 1942.03.05)
 78: Voix de son Maître W 1514 [mx.2LA 3723, 3724]
Sanctus (part) only Henry Washington, Brompton Oratorio Singers *n/i* (rec. 1949.12.20)
 78: H.M.V. HMS 28 [mx.2EA 14539]; LP: HLP 6; RCA Victor LM 6016
Agnus Dei I II omitted Miroslav Venhoda, Prague Madrigal Singers, Musica Antiqua Vienna *w/i* (rec. 1963.06.11-17) [4:30, 5:27, 7:14, 6:58, 4:12]
 LP: Supraphon DV 6025; SV 8124; SUAST 50553; 80731 LK; Eurodisc 92922; Eterna 825 644; Crossroads 22 16 0094
Agnus Dei II only Miroslav Venhoda, Prague Madrigal Singers *n/i* (rec. 1971.06.21-25)
 [0:32] *superius from ed. Petrucci (solo)*
 33: Oxford OUP 128 *in book 'Josquin des Prez', ed. Edward Lowinsky(Oxford,1976)*
Agnus Dei II only Miroslav Venhoda, Prague Madrigal Singers *n/i* (rec. 1971.06.21-25)
 [0:33] *(from ed. Petrucci)*
 33: Oxford OUP 128 *in book 'Josquin des Prez', ed. Edward Lowinsky(Oxford,1976)*
Agnus Dei II only Miroslav Venhoda, Prague Madrigal Singers *n/i* (rec. 1971.06.21-25)
 [0:43] *superius from MS Berlin 1175 (solo)*
 33: Oxford OUP 128 *in book 'Josquin des Prez', ed. Edward Lowinsky(Oxford,1976)*
Agnus Dei II only Miroslav Venhoda, Prague Madrigal Singers *n/i* (rec. 1971.06.21-25)
 [0:46] *(from MS Berlin 1175)*
 33: Oxford OUP 128 *in book 'Josquin des Prez', ed. Edward Lowinsky(Oxford,1976)*
Agnus Dei II III only Miroslav Venhoda, Prague Madrigal Singers *n/i* (rec. 1971.06.21-25)
 [3:51]
 33: Oxford OUP 128 *in book 'Josquin des Prez', ed. Edward Lowinsky(Oxford,1976)*
Kyrie only John Reeves White, New York Pro Musica *with inst.* (rec. 1971.06.21-25) [3:43]
 33: Oxford OUP 128 *in book 'Josquin des Prez', ed. Edward Lowinsky(Oxford,1976)*
 Bruno Turner, Pro Cantione Antiqua London *n/i* (rec. 1976.09.20-24)
 [4:02, 6:20, 7:49, 8:18, 7:28]
 LP: Archiv 2533 360; CD: 415 293-2; 445 067-2; 449 082-2; 645 667-2
 Peter Phillips, Tallis Scholars *n/i* (issued 1989) [5:01, 7:05, 8:24, 9:25, 10:22]
 CD: Gimell CDGIM 019; 454919; CDGIM 206

Bernard Fabre-Garrus, *A Sei Voci*, Maîtrise des Pays de Loire *n/i* (rec. 2000.07.)
[3:54, 6:18, 8:42, 8:08, 8:07]
CD: Naïve E 8809
René Clemencic *clavichord* (rec. 2002.02.) [2:24]
CD: Arte Nova 74321-92781-2; ANO 927810
Jesse Rodin, *Cut Circle n/i* (rec. 2008.08.) [3:56, 6:03, 7:15, 8:07, 7:07]
CD: Musique en Wallonie MEW 1265-1266
Maurice Bourbon, *Métamorphoses n/i* (rec. 2009.08.28 – 09.01)
[4:41, 6:53, 7:07, 7:52, 8:23]
CD: Calliope CAL 9441 “*Josquin & Rome I, vol. 3*”
Agnus Dei III only Manfred Novak *organ* (2011)
CD: MDG. 6061701 “*Die Klagenfurter Orgeltablatur*”

Pierre de La Rue (c.1460–1518)

Missa L’homme armé I (4vv.)

Bo Holten, *Ars Nova* (rec. 1987.06.14-18)
CD: Kontrapunkt 32008
Ens. Clément Janequin (rec. 1988.11.)
CD: Harmonia Mundi HMC 901296; HMA 1951296; HMT 7901296
Credo and Agnus Dei only Dirk Snellings, *Capilla Flamenca* (rec. 2008.06.)
CD: Eufoda 1372 “*Bellum & Pax*”

Missa L’homme armé II (4vv.)

Honey Meconi, *Pierre de la Rue and Musical Life at the Hapsburg-Burgundian Court* (Oxford, 2003) classifies this as dubious, but on p. 177 discusses it as if authentic.
not recorded

Jacob Obrecht (1457/58–1505)

Missa L’homme armé

Hans Grüss, *Capella Fidicinia with instruments* (rec. 1996.08.-09.)
CD: Querstand VKJK 9609
Kyrie and Gloria only Dirk Snellings, *Capilla Flamenca w/i* (rec. 2008.06.)
CD: Eufoda 1372 “*Bellum & Pax*”

Marbrianus de Orto (c.1460–1429)

Missa L'homme armé

Jesse Rodin, Cut Circle (rec. 2008.08.)

CD: Musique en Wallonie MEW 1265-1266

The Sound and the Fury (rec. 2010.10.)

CD: Fra Bernardo 6001222

Matthaeus Pipelare (c.1450–1515)

Missa L'homme armé

Credo only Guillaume de Van, Paraphonistes de St-Jean-des-Matines (rec. 1942.03.05)

78: Voix de son Maître W 1515 [mx.2LA 3725, 3726]

Paul van Nevel, Huelgas Ens. *with instruments* (rec. 1995.04.24-26)

CD: Sony SK 68258

The Sound and the Fury (rec. 2013.06.)

CD: Fra Bernardo 1309203

Bertrandus Vaqueras (c.1450–c.1507)

Missa L'homme armé

not recorded

1520s to 1550s

Robert Carver (c.1485–1566?)

Missa L'homme armé

Alan Tavener, Cappella Nova (issued 1991)

CD: Gaudeamus CD GAU 126

Andreas de Silva (c.1475–1530)

Missa L'homme armé

not recorded

Cristóbal de Morales (c.1500–53)

Missa L'homme armé (5vv.)

Alejandro Planchart, Capella Cordina (rec. 1973.05.19)

LP: Lyrichord LLST 7267

CD: Lyrichord LEMS 8009

Alistair Dixon, Chapelle du Roi (rec. 2000.03.06-08)

CD: Signum SIG 019 “*Music for Charles V*”

Missa L'homme armé (4vv.)

not recorded

Francisco de Peñalosa (c.1470–1528)

Missa L'homme armé

not recorded

Ludwig Senfl (c.1490–1543)

Missa L'homme armé

The Suspicious Cheeselords (rec. 2004.08.17-19 & 24-25)

CD: Suspicious Cheeselords SCL 502

1550s to 1600s

Francisco Guerrero (1528–99)

Missa L'homme armé (4vv.)

Adriano Giardina, Ens. La Sestina (issued 2011)

CD: Sony/Deutsche Harmonia Mundi 88697 82401 2

Missa L'homme armé (4 vv.) (*MS Ávila, Sta. Ana*)

see Owen Rees, "Guerrero's *L'homme armé* masses and their models," *Early Music History* 12 (1993), pp. 19-54.

not recorded

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525–1594)

Missa L'homme armé (4vv., pub. 1582)

Sergio Vartolo, Cappella Musicale di S. Petronio Bologna (rec. 1995.10.)

CD: Naxos 8.553314 (issued 1996)

Missa L'homme armé (5vv., pub. 1570)

Sergio Vartolo, Cappella Musicale di S. Petronio Bologna (rec. 1995.10.)

CD: Naxos 8.553315 (issued 2000)

17th century

Giacomo Carissimi (1605–74)

Missa L'homme armé (12vv.)

Craig Wright, op. cit., p. 288: "survives, in various guises, in six sources, most of which date from the nineteenth century, and only one of them attributes the Mass to Carissimi. The style and authenticity of this work have yet to be fully examined. On the sources, see Claudio Sartori ... and Iva M. Buff ..."

Gianluca Capuano, Madrigalisti Ambrosiani (issued 2004)

CD: Stradivarius STR 33653 \$49

Appendix

Excerpt from the review of Caron's Masses in *Fanfare*, 37:4 (March/April 2014):

But who is Caron, "one of the most successful composers of his time," as David Fallows writes? No one can even guess at his vital dates. This CD package follows Fallows, whose article in *The New Grove, Second Edition*, adopts a strongly expressed opinion in favor of the name Firminus Caron. . . . "[I]t is probable that all the works listed below [in the works list] are by a single composer with the exception of *Rose plaisant*." Earlier, "assertions that [the ascription of a Mass in a Vatican manuscript] reads 'P. Caron' [rather than F.] are definitely wrong and it cannot stand for 'Filippo'." But he admits that "his first name [Firminus] comes only from references in three different treatises by Tinctoris," all of whose treatises were written between 1474 and 1484, and "The ascriptions for his music all read simply 'Caron'." This is most significant, for no other source cites Caron with a first name except Tinctoris. But Fallows regards the initial in the Vatican manuscript as proof of the full name that Tinctoris used. Amiens Cathedral had a "primus ... musicus Firminus le Caron" in 1422, "probably too early," while there was a Philippe Caron, "a choirboy at Cambrai Cathedral, 1471–75, definitely too young."

Jaap van Benthem, in the notes to this recording, similarly constructs a biography out of suppositions. Fallows's idea, "It is reasonable to suggest that the composer may himself be from Amiens," becomes van Benthem's "[He was] Born around 1440 in Amiens and probably trained at the choir school," a logical guess with no evidence for it. On the other side of the question, James Thomson edited the complete works of "Philippe (?) Caron" for The Institute of Mediaeval Music in 1971–76. The question mark that appears in the name does show little real conviction. In the end, if Firminus lived too early and Philippe lived too late, there is hardly any proof of a first name for Caron, nor any for his vital dates. . . . With "no direct documentation of Caron's life," as Fallows admits, he has the skimpiest biography of any 15th-century composer of present-day fame. Van Benthem says that he was master of the choir school of Amiens around 1459, a new discovery perhaps too recent for Fallows to have mentioned it.

Postscript: Gerald Montagna, "Caron, Hayne, Compère: a transmission reassessment" in *Early Music History*, 6 (1987), pp. 107-57 (especially p. 120), defends the given name of Firmin. The recording by Paul Van Nevel identifies him as Firminus Caron.