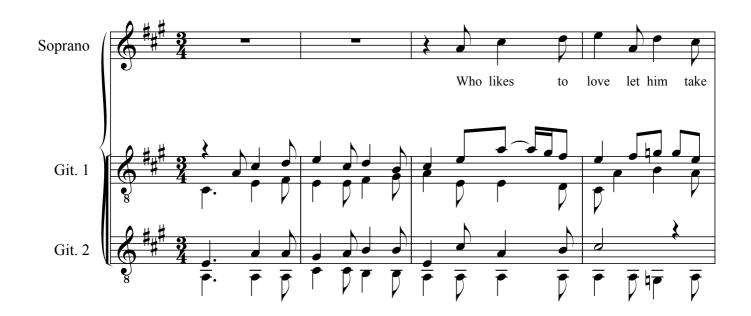
Byrd, William - Who likes to love

Psalmes, Sonnets and Songs... (1588), no. 13

Wilham Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Intavolierung - Anton Höger







Byrd, William - Who likes to love



Who likes to love let him take heed, and wot you why?
Among the Gods it is decreed that love shall die, and every wight that takes his part shall forfeit each a mourning heart.

The cause is this as I have heard a sort of dames Whose beauty he did not regard Nor secret flames Complained before the gods above That gold corrupts the God of love.

The gods did storm to hear this news and there they swore that sith he did such dames abuse he should no more be god of lovem but that he should both die and forfeit all his gold. His bow and shafts they took away before their eyes and gave these dames a longer day for to devise who should them keep, and they be bound that love for gold should not be found.

These ladies, striving long, at last they did agree to give then to a maiden chaste, whom I did see, who with the same did pierce my heart her beauty's rare and so I rest.