

FOUR INVENTORIES OF MUSIC FROM THE CHOIR OF
THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS IN EGER
(WESTERN BOHEMIA)

A contribution to the history of repertoire migration at the turn of the 16th
to the 17th century

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Eger (Cheb), a city in the west of the present-day Czech Republic, was an important political and cultural centre linking the Bohemian and German lands during the Late Middle Ages and the early modern period. An integral part of cultural life in the city was the music practiced and performed at the Latin school and the Church of St. Nicholas. This study focuses on four inventories of music created by newly appointed cantors during the phase of re-Catholicization around the turn of the 16th to the 17th century. Their contents not only reflect the changes in the position of cantor

but also enable a reconstruction of the musical prints purchased over time by the town since the middle of the 16th century. These prints apparently formed the repertoire for the local Latin school and the church. The inventories contain entries on music anthologies through which the Italian repertoire was disseminated in the lands beyond the Alps. At the same time, they document the contemporary predilection for polyphonic music. Their contents also prove a kinship between the inventories in Eger and those of the Latin schools in Schlaggenwald (Horní Slavkov) and Elbogen (Loket).