

Symphonia Series Notation Guide

My aim as editor is to translate the highly-nuanced and expressive 12th-century notation utilized in Hildegard's source manuscripts into simply legible conventions of modern notation that anyone with basic music reading skills can use.

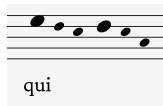
Each edition retains its original mode, but has been transcribed into G (treble) clef. Performers are encouraged to freely transpose as needed.

Scores are organized and constructed by *poetic line* as delineated by Dr. Barbara Newman in her definitive edition of the *Symphonia*.¹ NOTE: These poetic lines do not always correspond with Hildegard's maverick style of musical syntax. I invite interpreters to be guided by both text *and* music as a cohesive construction.

If you find this resource helpful, [we welcome any donation](#) towards maintaining and expanding our work on the library. *Thank you so much!*

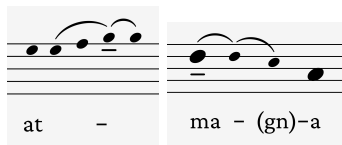
-Allison Mondel

Notehead Size



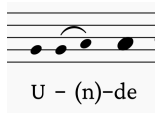
Notehead sizes indicate the relative length, weight, stress, or dynamic movement of a particular note or musical gesture. I.e., smaller noteheads have greater dynamic energy than larger noteheads.

Tenuto



A *tenuto* marking symbolizes a “pressus,” indicating a musical stress or pressure on a particular note.

Parentheses



Sounds placed in parentheses symbolize a “liquescent” neume (also known as a “plica”), indicating that sound is to be fully articulated for the duration of that pitch. (i.e., one would fully close down on a consonant within a particular word.)

[Please contact Allison Mondel](#) for any additional questions, issues, or suggestions regarding the scores.

Manuscript Sources

D Dendermonde Codex

Symphonia armonie celestium revelationum (folios 153r-170v), Dendermonde, Sint-Pieters-en Paulusabdij, ms. 9. [Click to view digitized manuscript.](#)

R Riesencodex

Riesencodex (entire MS digitization, *Symphonia* on folios 466r-481v), Hessische Landesbibliothek, Wiesbaden, Riesencodex Hs.2, Hochschule Rheinman. [Click to view digitized manuscript.](#)

Abbreviations

f	folio
r	<i>recto</i> (front side)
v	<i>verso</i> (back side)

References

¹ *Symphonia, 2nd. Edition.* Newman, Barbara. Cornell University Press, 1998.