The Silver Swan

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

The First Set of Madrigals and Mottets (London, 1612)

The Silver Swan, who living had no Note, When death approacheth unlokt her silent throat, Leaning her breast against the reedy shore, Thus sung her first and last, and sung no more, and sung

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The silver Swanne, who living had no Note,
When death approacht unlockt her silent throat,
Leaning her breast against the reedy shore,
Thus sung her first and last, and sung no more,
Farewell all joyes, O death come close mine eyes,
More Geese than Swannes now live, more fooles than wise.