

A CHRONOLOGY OF MILTON'S POETRY

TITLE OF POEM	COMPOSITION	EARLIEST PRINT PUBLICATION
A Paraphrase on Psalm 114	1624	1645, 1673
Psalm 136	1624	1645, 1673
<i>Apologus de Rustico et Hero</i>	1624? [*]	1673
<i>Carmina Elegiaca</i>	1624? [*]	1876
<i>Ignavus satrapam</i>	1624? [*]	1876
<i>Philosophus ad regem</i>	1624? [*]	1645, 1673
<i>Elegia prima</i>	1626 (early April?)	1645, 1673
<i>Elegia tertia, In Obitum Praesulis Wintoniensis</i>	1626 ("Autumn 1626")	1645, 1673
<i>Elegia secunda, In Obitum Praeconis Adademici</i>	1626 ("Autumn 1626")	1645, 1673
<i>In Obitum Praesulis Eliensis</i>	1626 ("Autumn 1626")	1645, 1673
<i>In Obitum Procancellarii Medici</i>	1626 ("Autumn 1626")	1645, 1673
<i>In Proditionem Bombardicam</i>	1626? ^{**}	1645, 1673
<i>In eandem</i>	1626? ^{**} (post Mar. 1625 b/c ref to KJ I's death)	1645, 1673
<i>In eandem</i>	1626? ^{**}	1645, 1673
<i>In eandem</i>	1626? ^{**}	1645, 1673
<i>In inventorem Bombardae</i>	1626? ^{**}	1645, 1673
<i>In quintum Novembris</i>	1626 (Nov.)	1645, 1673
<i>Elegia quarta</i>	1627 (btwn Mar. 11 & Apr. 28)	1645, 1673
<i>Elegia septima</i>	1627 (May?)	1645, 1673 [1628—poem to Alexander Gill, Jr.]
On the Death of a Fair Infant Dying of a Cough	1628 (Jan.—April)	1673
<i>De Idea Platonica</i>	1628 (June)? 1631?	1645, 1673
At a Vacation Exercise in the College	1628 (near July 4 or as late as Oct.)	1673
<i>Elegia quinta</i>	1629 (spring)	1645, 1673
Song. On May Morning	1629 (or 1630 or early 1631) (spring)	1645, 1673

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Sonnet 1 (“O Nightingale”)	1629 (or 1630) (spring)	1645, 1673
Sonnet 2 (“Enchanting lady”)	1629 (Michaelmas term)?	1645, 1673
Sonnet 3 (“As on a rugged hill”)	1629 (Michaelmas term)?	1645, 1673
Canzone (“Ladies and young men in love”)	1629 (Michaelmas term)?	1645, 1673
Sonnet 4 (“Diodati—and I will tell you”)	1629 (Michaelmas term)?	1645, 1673
Sonnet 5 (“Surely, my lady, your beautiful eyes”)	1629 (Michaelmas term)?	1645, 1673
Sonnet 6 (“A young, quiet, naïve lover”)	1629 (Michaelmas term)?	1645, 1673
The Fifth Ode of Horace. Book I.	1629 (late)? (Campbell: “wholly undatable”)	1673
On the Morning of Christ’s Nativity	1629 (Dec. 25)	1645, 1673
<i>Elegia sexta</i>	1629 (late Dec.)	1645, 1673
The Passion	1630? (Mar. 26, Good Friday)	1645, 1673
On Shakespeare	1630	1632, 1645, 1664, 1673
On the University Carrier	1631 (soon after Jan. 1)	1645, 1658, 1673
Another on the Same	1631 (soon after Jan. 1)	1640, 1657, 1645, 1658, 1673
Epitaph on the Marchioness of Winchester <i>Naturam non patri senium</i>	1631 (Easter term) 1631? (June 1631, per Shawcross; also 1628–32)	1645, 1673
L’Allegro	1631? (summer 1631, per Oras)	1645, 1673
Il Penseroso	1631? (summer 1631, per Oras)	1645, 1673
<i>Ad Patrem</i>	1631? (per Bush; Shawcross: 1638; also 1632–45)	1645, 1673
Sonnet 7 (“How soon hath time”)	1631 (Dec.)	1645, 1673
Elegiac couplet on Ariosto	1632?	1931–38 ?
Arcades	1632 (late summer)	1645, 1673
At a Solemn Musick	1632?	1645, 1673
On Time	1632–33? (Shawcross: 1637)	1645, 1673
Upon the Circumcision	1633?	1645, 1673
A Masque Presented at Ludlow Castle	1634 (Sept.)	1637, 1645, 1673
Psalm 114	1634 (Nov.)	1645, 1673
<i>Haec ego mente</i> (appended to <i>Elegia septima</i>)	1635? (Carey: “must . . . be post-1628”)	1645, 1673
Lycidas	1637 (Nov.)	1638, 1645, 1673
Fix here ye	1638 (Apr.?)	1876
<i>Ad Salsillum poetam Romanum</i>	1638 (Oct.–Nov.?)	1645, 1673

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<i>Mansus</i>	1638 (Dec.) or 1639 (Jan.–Feb.)	1645, 1673
<i>Ad Leonoram Romae canentem</i>	1639 (Feb.) or 1638 (Oct.–Nov.)	1645, 1673
<i>Ad eandem</i> (“The poet Torquato”)	1639 (Feb.) or 1638 (Oct.–Nov.)	1645, 1673
<i>Ad eandem</i> (“Why, credulous Naples”)	1639 (Feb.) or 1638 (Oct.–Nov.)	1645, 1673
<i>Epitaphium Damonis</i>	1639 (autumn)	1640, 1645, 1673
Translations from <i>Of Reformation</i>	1641 (Jan.–May)	1641 (May)
Translation from <i>Reason of Church–Government</i>	1641–42 (Aug. 4– Jan. 1)	1642 (late Jan. or Feb.)
Translations from <i>Apology against a Pamphlet</i>	1642 (Apr.)	1642 (Apr.)
Sonnet 8 (“Captain, or Colonel”)	1642 (Nov.?)	1645, 1673
Sonnet 10 (“Daughter to that good Earle”)	1642–45	1645, 1673
Sonnet 9 (“Lady, that in the prime”)	1643–45	1645, 1673
Translation from <i>Areopagitica</i> ’s title page	1644 (Nov.)	1644 (Nov. 23)
Translation from <i>Tetrachordon</i>	1645 (Feb.)	1645 (Mar. 4)
<i>In Effigiei ejus Sculptorem</i>	1645	1645, 1673
Sonnet 13 (“Harry, whose tuneful”)	1646 (Feb. 9)	1648, 1673
Sonnet 12 (“I did but prompt the age”)	1646	1673
On the New Forcers of Conscience	1646 (Shawcross: early 1647)	1673
Sonnet 14 (“When Faith and Love”)	1646 (Dec.)	1673
<i>Ad Joannem Rousium</i>	1647 (Jan. 23)	1673
Sonnet 11 (“A book was writ of late”)	1647?	1673
Psalms 80–88	1648 (Apr.)	1673
Sonnet 15 (“Fairfax, whose name in arms”)	1648 (btwn July 8 & Aug. 17)	1694
Translation from <i>Tenure of Kings & Magistrates</i>	1649 (Feb.)	1649 (Feb. 13)
Translations from <i>History of Britain</i>	1649 (Feb.–Mar.)	1670
Verse from <i>Pro Populo Anglicano Defensio</i>	1650	1651 (Feb. 24)
Sonnet 16 (“Cromwell, our chief of men”)	1652 (May)	1694
Sonnet 17 (“Vane, young in years”)	1652 (June–July)	1662, 1694
Psalms 1–8	1653 (Aug. 8–14)	1673
Verses from <i>Defensio Secunda</i>	1653–54	1654 (May 30)
Sonnet 18 (“Avenge O Lord”)	1655 (shortly after June 20)	1673
Sonnet 19 (“When I consider”)	1655 (btwn July & Oct.) ^o	1673
Sonnet 20 (“Lawrence of virtuous”)	1655 (Oct.–Nov.?)	1673
Sonnet 21 (“Cyriack, whose grandsire”)	1655 (Oct.–Dec.?)	1673
Sonnet 22 (“Cyriack, this three years’ day”)	1655 (Oct.–Dec.?)	1694
Sonnet 23 (“Methought I saw”)	1652? 1658?	1673

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<i>Paradise Lost</i>	1640s?, 1658–63? (per Aubrey)	1667 (Aug.?), 1674 (July 6?)
<i>Paradise Regained</i>	1665 (Aug.)–1670?	1671
<i>Samson Agonistes</i>	1660s?	1671

* = composed during Milton's school days ** = evidently composed for academic celebrations of Guy Fawkes Day ° = also dated as early as 1651 or 1652