

The words used in this composition are taken from one of Torquato Tasso's *Rime amorose extravaganti* – which comprise the third book of his *Rime d'amore* – dating from the 1580s.

Cantava in riva al fiume
Tirsi d'Eleonora,
E rispondean le selve e l'onde – onora.
E parea mormorando
Dir l'òra: – ora ch'appare,
L'aurora par che lieta esca dal mare:
Or chi l'onora amando? –
E l'acque insieme e i rami –
Or chi fia che l'onori e che non l'ami? –

On the banks of the river Tirsi sang of Eleonora, and the woods and the waves answered in her honour. And now he seemed to say murmuring: now that she appears, the dawn leaves the sea happily: who will honour her by loving her? – And all the waters together and the branches say – who could honour her and not love her?

The vocal part of the work is based on the *canto* part of Ludovico Agostini's setting of the poem contained in his book of five-voice madrigals *Il nuovo echo* which was printed in Ferrara by the ducal printer Vittorio Baldini in 1583. The book contains a number of pieces connected with the Este court: Eleonora in the poem is Leonora d'Este with whom Tasso fell in love, other works in the collection are dedicated to other members of the Este family and musicians connected to the court such as Luzzaschi and de Wert.

The work is scored for solo piano, mezzo-soprano and an ensemble consisting of flute, clarinet, percussion, violin, viola, 'cello and double bass; it is in fact the first part of a longer work; for this reason the last line and a half of the poem is not used. This part is in two sections: the first is marked *allegro vivo* and is characterized by dramatic and sometimes violent exchanges between piano and ensemble, the voice enters towards the end of this 82-bar paragraph. The second section consists of a string of passages for various ensembles initiated by a type of *intermezzo* for flute and 'cello; these instruments are gradually augmented by bells and voice – which ambiguously enters on the second syllable of the word *fiume* which had concluded the first section – before the piano reappears with a passage marked *lussuosamente e luminoso*. Opulence gives way to far sparser melancholy and then a passage for string trio and voice. In this the clearest allusions to Agostini's setting are found. The work concludes with a paraphrase of this for the piano.

The *Concerto da Tasso* was written in Cortona, Winchester, Cambridge and London in July and September 1999. It was first performed by the composer, mezzo-soprano Anna Dennis and the IXION Ensemble conducted by Michael Finnissy. It was commissioned by the IXION Ensemble but no fee was received. It was broadcast by BBC Radio Three on 22 October 1999.

CONCERTO DA TASSO

JONATHAN POWELL

Allegro vivo

Musical score for the Allegro vivo section of the Concerto da Tasso. The score includes parts for Flauto piccolo, Clarinet in Bb, gran cassa, Crotala, Mezzo soprano, Pianoforte, Violin, Viola, Violoncello, and Double bass.

The score features dynamic markings such as fff (fortississimo) and dynamics with 3:2 ratios. A large blue watermark reading "Preview File Only" is diagonally across the page.

Flauto piccolo: Starts with a dotted eighth note followed by sixteenth-note patterns. Includes dynamic fff and a 3:2 ratio bracket.

Clarinet in Bb: Follows the Flauto piccolo with similar sixteenth-note patterns. Includes dynamic fff and a 3:2 ratio bracket.

gran cassa: Features rhythmic patterns with dynamic fff and a 3:2 ratio bracket.

Crotala: Shows rhythmic patterns with dynamic fff and a 3:2 ratio bracket.

Mezzo soprano: Rests throughout the measures shown.

Pianoforte: Features complex sixteenth-note patterns. Dynamics include fff, mp (mezzo-forte), and fff again. Includes a 3:2 ratio bracket and a dynamic marking of 8va (octave up).

Violin: Rests throughout the measures shown.

Viola: Rests throughout the measures shown.

Violoncello: Rests throughout the measures shown.

Double bass: Rests throughout the measures shown.

Musical score page 2 featuring six staves of music. The top staff uses treble clef and has three flats. It includes dynamic markings *p* and *ff*, and performance instructions "12:9" and "3:2". The second staff uses treble clef and has three sharps. The third staff uses treble clef and has one sharp. The fourth staff uses treble clef and has one sharp. The fifth staff uses bass clef. The sixth staff uses bass clef.

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Measure 1 (top staff): Treble clef, 3 flats. Dynamics: *p*, *ff*. Performance: 12:9, 3:2.

Measure 2 (top staff): Treble clef, 3 sharps.

Measure 3 (second staff): Treble clef, 1 sharp.

Measure 4 (third staff): Treble clef, 1 sharp.

Measure 5 (fourth staff): Treble clef, 1 sharp.

Measure 6 (fifth staff): Bass clef.

Measure 7 (sixth staff): Bass clef.

A

3

5

crotala

3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2

3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2

8va

A

8

p — ff

ff ff

$\frac{3:2}$

(8)

: f — sfffz

mf — ff

pp

p — ff

3 3

p

ff

p

ff

10

ff

ff

mf

9.7

3

3

p

ff

mp

ff

ff

mp

ff

3

mf

ff

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B*poco meno mosso*

12

vibrafono

crotala

Preview Line Only

8va

p

mf

mf

B

poco meno mosso

pp

ppp

f

15

subito f

vibrafono

crotala

3:2

10:7

8va

mf

mp

f

accelerando

16

mf p ff

ff

3:2

vibrafono

p

(8)

f 3:2 5:4

3:2

5:4

p

f

accelerando

port.

port.

p

f

p

p

C

tempo iniziale

18

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tempo iniziale

18

f p fff p

crotala ff

cresc. -

7:5 3:2 ppp fff sfzp

mp 8vb fff

port. cresc. fff

meno mosso

20

fff

ppp

p

vibrafono

crotala

pp

(8)

pp

14:11

p

meno mosso

fff

ppp

mf

ppp

mf

ppp

ppp

molto ritenuto**subito a tempo iniziale**

22

ff ff p

mp

vibrafono

ppp

3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2

f pp 3

ppp

molto ritenuto**subito a tempo iniziale**

tr
ppp

tr
ppp

tr

tr

pp

D

Musical score for piano, page 24, measures 24-28. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a melodic line with various dynamics and performance instructions like '3' and '5'. The bottom staff is mostly blank. Measure 24 starts with a dynamic 'p'. Measure 25 begins with a dynamic 'pp'. Measure 26 starts with a dynamic 'mp'. Measure 27 starts with a dynamic 'pp'. Measure 28 ends with a dynamic 'p'.

A musical score for piano, featuring a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The melody begins with a sustained note followed by a descending eighth-note scale. It then moves to a higher register with a dotted half note and a quarter note. The score includes vertical bar lines and a repeat sign with two dots, indicating a return to the beginning of the section.

A musical staff consisting of five horizontal lines. The first, third, and fifth lines each have a small black dash centered above them. The second and fourth lines each have a large blue 'X' mark centered above them.

D

D

Musical score for piano showing measures 11-12. The score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef, B-flat major, and common time. It features a dynamic marking of p . The lower staff is in bass clef, C major, and common time. Measures 11 and 12 are identical, each consisting of four measures. The first measure of each group begins with a forte dynamic (f) and a grace note. The second measure contains a sustained note with a fermata. The third measure begins with a forte dynamic (f). The fourth measure concludes with a forte dynamic (f).

A blank musical staff for bass clef, consisting of five horizontal lines and one space above them. Four vertical bar lines divide the staff into five measures.

accel.

più mosso

27

cresc. - - - - -

sffz

3 3 tr p

3:2 3:2 7:4 7:4 3:2

crotala ff

3:2

sfzpp

8vb

Preview File Only

accel.

più mosso

...''

sfzp

sfzp

...''

...''

29

sfz > mf f > mp ff > mp

ff

gran cassa
sfzp sfzp

8va

> > >

sfzp sfzp sfzp

sfzp sfzp sfzp

sffffz p sffffzp

E

31

31

psfzmp

concentrato

suspended cymbal

triangolo

p

glockenspiel

pp

(8)---

8va---

f

f

ffffz

f

port.

port.

E

34

triangolo

crotala

vibrafono

ff

sffz pp

8vb

p f fff

37

fff

crotala vibrafono

sffz ffff

(8) sul pont.

sffffz sffffz p sffffz sffffz

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F con tono risoluto ma inizialmente
senza troppo essitazione

40

sfzp

sffz p

mp sfz p sffz p

sffz

8:pb

F con tono risoluto ma inizialmente
senza troppo essitazione

s.p.

ord. s.p. 8:7

pp sfz pp

sffz

sffz

43

3:2

sffffz

sfz — *p* — *ff*

sfz — *p*

sfz — *p*

8^{va}

sffffz *mf* — *sffffz* — *fff*

5:4

3:2

8^{vb}

ord. *s.p.*

sfz — *sfzp* — *sfzmp* — *ff*

s.p.

ord. — *→* *s.p.*

ff

sfz — *p*

ff

ff

45

sffz

p

ff cresc.

s.p.

ff

p

G

47

sffz

crotala

ffff

p sffz

8^{vb}

au talon

ff fff

s.p. 6:5 s.p.

sfz p mf

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49

sfz —

vibrafono

crotala

5 3

9:7

sfffz —

9:8

3:2

sfffz —

51

This musical score page contains five staves of music, likely for a string quartet or similar ensemble. The staves are arranged vertically, with some staves grouped by a brace.

- Staff 1:** Treble clef. Dynamics: **f**, **p**, **cresc.**
- Staff 2:** Treble clef. Dynamics: **vibrafono**.
- Staff 3:** Treble clef. Dynamics: **8va**, **f**, **ppp**.
- Staff 4:** Bass clef. Measure 1: **secco**, **7:5**. Measure 2: **8va**, **3:2**, **mp**.
- Staff 5:** Bass clef. Dynamics: **pizz.**, **mf**.

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53

ff

crotala

(8)

15ma

ff

ppp

8vb

(8)

sfzpp f

arco

s.p.

→ ord.

6:5

6:5

sfzpp f

H

56

58

This musical score page contains six staves of music. The first two staves are treble clef, the third is bass clef, and the fourth is alto clef. The fifth staff begins with a bass clef and ends with a treble clef, indicated by a brace. The sixth staff is bass clef.

Dynamics and performance instructions include:

- Staff 1: - (empty measure)
- Staff 2: - (empty measure)
- Staff 3: - (empty measure)
- Staff 4: - (empty measure)
- Staff 5:
 - Measure 1: ff
 - Measure 2: 3:2 (two eighth-note groups), 3:2 (one eighth note followed by a fermata)
 - Measure 3: - (empty measure)
- Staff 6:
 - Measure 1: sffz
 - Measure 2: mp
 - Measure 3: cresc.
 - Measure 4: ppp
- Staff 5 (continued):
 - Measure 1: 3:2 (two eighth-note groups), 3:2 (one eighth note followed by a fermata)
 - Measure 2: - (empty measure)
 - Measure 3: - (empty measure)
 - Measure 4: - (empty measure)
- Staff 6:
 - Measure 1: 8va (octave up)
 - Measure 2: - (empty measure)
 - Measure 3: - (empty measure)
 - Measure 4: - (empty measure)
- Staff 5 (continued):
 - Measure 1: mf
 - Measure 2: - (empty measure)

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60

sffffz

mf

sffffz

sfz pp

pp

8va.

----- sffffz

mf

sfz pp 3:2 3:2 mp

sffffz p

> ^ ^

sfzpp sfz

mf

s.p. → ord.

sfz

s.p. → ord.

sfz

I63 **gradualmente più largamente**

triangolo piatto sospeso

I**gradualmente più largamente**

8va

p mf f mp

mf f port. mp

68

3

f

p

crotala

f

Can - ta -

Preview File Only

port.

sfzpp

f

sfzpp

port.

sfzpp

f

sfzpp

mf

mf

71

f

5

5

5

5

5

5

vibrafono
arco

va

port.

port.

port.

port.

f

mp

f

mp

73

f f p mf

f

in

port.

mp espressivo

J**molto moderato**

75

5 5 5

pp cresc.

triangolo piatto

glockenspiel vibrafono

pp

in ri va

pp mp

()

J

molto moderato

p

mf

p

Musical score page 79, measures 79-80. The score consists of six staves:

- Staff 1 (Treble Clef):** Measures 79-80. Dynamics: *mp*, *dim.*. Articulation: *piatto*.
- Staff 2 (Bass Clef):** Measures 79-80. Articulation: *triangolo*, *3:2*, *3:2*.
- Staff 3 (Treble Clef):** Measures 79-80.
- Staff 4 (Treble Clef):** Measures 79-80.
- Staff 5 (Bass Clef):** Measures 79-80. Articulation: *f*.
- Staff 6 (Bass Clef):** Measures 79-80. Articulation: *mf*.

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85

sffz p f ppp

3 6:5 5:3 3

7 3 3 5:4 5:4

16 3 5:3 3 5:4 5:4

ff f pp < fp f pp mf

s.p. → ord.

=

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L

87

ppp f pp mf sfz ff p

5:3 5:4 5:4

3:2 s.p.

ppp f p s.p. → ord. ff p

90

campana

più calmo

ord.

port. 3:2 → ord.

p

mf

mf

pp

pp

mf

=

M

93

3

p

p

ppp

mf

ppp

3

me

tir

-

-

-

-

si

me

3

3

p

p

mf

p

96

mp

tir - si d'E-le - o no

mf p cresc.

mp

98

mf

mp

3:2

ra ora

mp

tir - si d'E-le - o - no

mp cresc.

mf

3:2

p f

N

lussuosamente e luminoso

101

7 16 3

7 16 3

7 16 3

9:7

7 16 3

lussuosamente e luminoso

7 16 3

102

3:2

mf

3:2

o - - - - ra

3:2

9:7

mf

ord. 6

port.

f

Preview File Only

103

piatto
sospeso

fff

e ris - pon - dean

cresc.

sfzpp

3

pp ff

3:2

pp cresc.

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

mp cresc.

104 muta in clarinetto basso

crotala 3 campana 3 3

f f

le sel

sffffz 3

mp

8va 7:5

6 3

ffff

sffffz ff

s.p. ord.

tr port. 4:3 5

port. p

mf

105

muta in clarinetto basso

3

ve

dim.

(8) 7.5 3:2

ff dim. mp

3:2 pp mp

bass clef

106

mp

dim.

3:2 3:2 3:2 sel pp p

(8) 3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2 dim. ppp

5:4 7:5 3 3 3 7:5 8vb p

9:7 s.p. pp port. 3:2 port. pp

5:3 port. pp

O

107 etereale ma un poco malinconico

f

p

mf

p

poco sfz

(8)

Preview File Only

O

eterale ma un poco malinconico

port.

3:2

mp

ord.

pp

110

ppp

vibrafono arco

pp

no - ra e l'on - de ho - no - p

pp

114

vibrafono
arco 3
campana
crotala
ra
pp
ppp
pp

3:2

f

4:3

e pp pa - re - a mf

3

3

3

3

PreviewFile Only

P

118 aggressivo ma sempre calmandosi

ff mor mor tr~~~~~

3:2 s.p. ord. > b>

sffz p ff sffz ff

3:3 s.p. ord. 3 port ff

sffz ff

8:5 s.p. ord. port ff

sffz mf sffz ff

andante

120

an - do
mor - an - do

andante

(tr) tr
p f

pochiss. 5
port. 5:3
port. 3:2
f

s.p. ord. 3
mp s.p.

=

Q

123

dir f l'o mp ra ch'ap pa

5 3 (tr) tr 5 pp p

7:4 3:2 sffz p

ord. 6 3 port. s.p. ord. port. 3 f

sffz mp

Preview File Only

126

gran cassa

sffzp

sfz f

re l'Au ro ra

sfffzp

mf ppp

ppp

s.p. → ord. port. p 5:3 3:2 ff

128

11:6

5:3

p

ff

ffff

par

sffffz

mp

6:5

(tr)

ff

ff

sffzpp

3:2

This page contains six staves of musical notation. Staff 1 (Bass clef) has a measure ratio of 11:6. Staff 2 (Treble clef) has a measure ratio of 5:3. Staff 3 (Treble clef) starts with dynamic 'p' and ends with 'ffff'. Staff 4 (Treble clef) has a dynamic 'par'. Staff 5 (Treble clef) has a dynamic 'sffffz' and 'mp'. Staff 6 (Treble clef) has a measure ratio of 6:5. Staff 7 (Treble clef) has a dynamic 'ff'. Staff 8 (Treble clef) has a dynamic 'ff'. Staff 9 (Bass clef) has a measure ratio of 3:2.

R

130

tam-tam

p

molto espressivo

che lie - ta[^]es - ca del mar - - - e

sffz

6:5

3

sffffz

pp

5:3

sffffz

pp

3:2

tenero

sffz p pp

R

s.p.

ord.

133

Hor p chi l'ho - no - ra a - man - do

(tr) s.p. tr ord. tr

p

=

Preview File Only

S

molto adagio

136

e l'ac

3 b 3

(tr) tr tr

p

p

s.p.

sfz pp

140

T

- que in sie - me
p

sffffz
7:6

6:5

T

mp

<mp

sffffz

sffffz

sffffz

<mp

sffffz

sffffz

142

5:4 7:6

4:3

3:2 6:5

7:6

6:5

Preview File Only

=

144

f pp

6:5 3:2 6:5 7:6

146

7:6

6:5

6:5

147

Preview File Only

crotala

fffffz

8va

16

16

16

6:5

7:6

148

(8)

v ^

sffffz ^

v ♫