

MUSICHE FATTE NELLE NOZZE – Firenze 1539

Banquet and Pageant - 29 June 1539

1. **Ingredere** Motet by Francesco Corteccia

24 singers – 4 cornetti – 4 tromboni (à 8 SSAATTBB)

2. **Sacro & Santo Himeneo** The Muses by Francesco Corteccia

9 singers and instruments (à 9 SSSAATTBB)

Cantus I	Melpomene (tragedy)	piffero (flute)
Cantus II	Clio (poetry)	flauto (recorder)
Cantus III	Urania (astronomy)	cornetto
Altus I	Calliope (heroic tales)	ribecchino (treble viol)
Altus II	Terpsichore (dance)	leuto
Tenor I	Euterpe (music)	dolzaina (big discussions....)
Tenor II	Polyhymnia (singing and rhetoric)	storta (crumhorn)
Quinta Pars	Thalia (festivities)	trombone
Bassus	Erato (lyric)	violone (bass viol or lirone)

3. **Piu che mai** Flora and her maids Constantino Festa (à 4 TTTB)
(recorders)

4. **Lieta per honorate** Pisa and her nymphs Matthio Rampollini (à 4 SATB)
(lutes)

5. **Ecco signor volterra** Volterra and her nymphs Petro Masaconi (à 5 SATBB)
(viols)

6. **Come lieta si mostra** Arezzo and shepherds Constantino Festa (à 4 TTTB)
(crumhorns)

7. **Non men ch'ogn'altra lieta** Cortona and company Baccio Moschini (à 4 SSTB)
(flutes)

8. **Ecco la fida ancella** Pistoia and company Matthio Rampollini (à 4 SATB)
(1 cornetto + 3 sackbuts)

9. **Ecco signore il Tebro** The Tiber and company Baccio Moschini (à 5 SSATB)
(recorder, cornetto, treble viol, sackbut, dulcian)

Intermedii (music by Francesco Corteccia) - 9 July 1539

Prologue:

10. Vatten' almo riposo Dawn

with gravicembalo, organo, flauto, arpa, violone, bird voices (à 4 SATB)

1. Intermedio:

11. Guardan' almo pastore The Shepherds

Pastoral scene with crumhorns (S (cornetto)-A-T-T-T-B) (à 6 SATTTB)

2. Intermedio:

12. Chi ne l'ha told' oyme The Sirens and Sea Monsters

3 flutes (sea monsters) and 3 lutes (nymphs) (à 6 SSSTTB)

3. Intermedio:

13. O begli anni de l'oro Silenus

Silenus accompanies himself on a violone (lirone) (à 4 TTTB)
(Tenor & lirone)

4. Intermedio

14. Hor chi mai cantera The Huntress Nymphs (à 4 SSST)

(four flutes)

Postlude

15. Vientene almo riposo Night

Voice (low mezzo) & 4 trombones (à 5 ATTTB)

16. Bacco bacco Satyrs & Bacchantes (à 4 SATB)

10 ladies and 10 satyrs (8 sang, 8 played instruments and 4 played drunk /// all the men nude with lots of hair all over their flanks and upper legs....)

Instruments: (1) a leather wine bottle covered a drum, (2) stag's head with ribecchino inside, (3) goat's horn with cornetto inside, (4) cranes's shinbone with a crumhorn inside, (5) vine stalk with a tromba torta inside, (6) a barrel hoop with reeds, having a harp inside, (7) a swan's beak having a cornetta dritta inside, (8) root and branches of an elder bush, with a crumhorn inside and lots of tambourines.....

Notes:

The music was premiered at the ten days of celebrations of the wedding of Cosimo de Medic and Leonora de Toledo in the summer of 1539. The first part during a pageant leading the bride up the Arno river to Florence, the second part as Intermedii in between the acts of a play. It was published by Gardane in Venice the same year.

The published version shows rather normal looking vocal settings for four to nine voices, but we know a lot more about it..

This wedding was as important and well documented as maybe the wedding between Charles Windsor and Diana Spencer. The world was looking on and the ambassadors wrote home about it. From all these sources we know that the performance included many instruments and was taking place in lavish stage settings as tableau vivant or acted out by the performers.

It must have cost a fortune to put it on and you had to be a Medici to pay for it...

We are very happy to do it in our Renaissance week with all the different vocal and instrumental colors and hope to get as close as possible.

There is a great study about it, which sometimes comes up as a used copy:

Andrew C. Minor & Bonner Mitchell
A Renaissance Entertainment
University of Missouri Press 1968

In order to get an idea of the music you might want to turn to Youtube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKxXnViJ_X4&list=OLAK5uy_m6AKrqrnd9ziZyEfw-PXFj09M1_vZyIZs&index=1

Gabriel Garrido made a CD with it and made some interesting choices.

MD