

Georg Gerson

(1790–1825)

Scene e Aria

aus

»La morte di Comala«

nach Ossian von Antonio Ganganelli

G.73

Score

Edited by
Christian Mondrup

Recit[ativo] e Aria per Soprano

Georg Gerson (1790-1825)

Allegro moderato

Flauto 1^o
Flauto 2^{do}

Oboi

Clarineti in A

Fagotti

Corno 1^o in F

Corno 2^{do} in E

Voce
Soprano

Violino 1^o

Violino 2^{do}

Viola

Violoncello

Basso

O Car-ro-ne, o Car-

3

8

Fl *f*

Ob *f*

Cl

Bsn

Cr1 *f*

Cr2

S

For-se sul - le tue spon-de suo-nò il fra-gor del - la ba - ta-glia?

Vl1 *p fp f*

Vl2 *p fp f*

Vla *p fp f*

Vcl *p fp f*

Cb *p fp f*

Andante

12

Fl *f* *p*

Ob *f*

Cl *p*

Bsn *p*

Cr1 *f*

Cr2

S
For - se Il Re di Mor - ven dor-me?

Vl1 *fp* *pp*

Vl2 *fp* *pp*

Vla *fp*

Vcl *fp* *pp*

Cb *fp* *pp*

16

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

E - sci - ne, o Lu - na, in que - sta not - te bru - na, la vi - a m'ad - di - ta, che al mio ben ____ con -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

p

p

p

p

19

Fl *p*

Ob *p*

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S
du - ce. Las - sa! chi mi di -

Vl1 *pp* *fp*

Vl2 *[pp]* *fp*

Vla *fp*

Vcl *fp*

Cb *fp*

22

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

fen - de dal do-lo - re, dall' A - mor dell' o - di - a - to I - dal - là - no

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

f

pp

p

f

pp

p

f

pp

p

f

pp

26

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

E quan - do mai po-trò mi - ra - re il mio di - let - to E - roe, vol-ger-si in mez-zo alle su - e for - ti

Vl1

fp

p

Vl2

fp

p

Vla

fp

p

Vcl

fp

p

Cb

fp

p

33 a Tempo

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

tal, che splen - de fuor del ro - sa - to grem - bo di

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

p

p

p

p

37 *colla parte* *a Tempo*

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Nu - be ma - tu - ti - na? Dov' è il mio Be - ne?

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

fp *p* *p* *p* *fp* *p* *fp* *p* *fp* *p* *fp* *p*

41 *p* **Larghetto**

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S
Ahi Co - ma - la me - schi - na! Se-ò per - du - to il ca - ro Spo - so, se ò

Vl1
p

Vl2
p

Vla
p

Vcl
p

Cb
p

45

Fl *pp*

Ob *pp*

Cl

Bsn *pp*

Cr1

Cr2

S
du - to il ca - ro Spo - so, In - fe - li - ce! che fa - rò? In-fe - li - ce! che fa -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

50

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

pp

p

p

p

rò? In - fe - li - ce! che fa - rò? non a - viò mai più ri - po - so, non a -

55

Fl *p*

Ob *p*

Cl *p* *rf*

Bsn *p* *rf* [*p*]

Cr1 *p*

Cr2 *p* *p*

S
viò mai più ri - po - so, pel do - lo - re io mo - ri - rò, io mo - ri - rò

Vl1 *p* *rf*

Vl2 *p* *rf*

Vla *p* *rf*

Vcl *p* *rf*

Cb *p* *rf*

60

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Se,ò per - du - to, il ca - ro Spo - so, se,ò per - du - to, il ca - ro spo - so, non a -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

p

p

p

p

rf

rf

rf

rf

rf

65

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

viò mai più ri - po - so, pel do - lo - re pel do - lo - re io mo - - ri -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

p

rf

rf

rf

rf

rf

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 65 to 69. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon) enter in measure 67 with a melodic line starting on a half note G4 (for Flute) and moving stepwise. The Clarinet and Bassoon parts are marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Cor 1 part has a melodic line starting in measure 66 with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Soprano part has the lyrics: "viò mai più ri - po - so, pel do - lo - re pel do - lo - re io mo - - ri -". The strings (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Contrabass) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked with a fortissimo (*rf*) dynamic. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/8.

19

75

Fl *p*

Ob *p* *p*

Cl

Bsn *p* *p*

Cr1 *p*

Cr2

S
rò, pel do - lo - re io mo - ri - rò!

Vl1 *pp*

Vl2 *pp*

Vla *pp*

Vcl *pp*

Cb

80 **Tempo di Marcia**

Fl *ppp*

Ob *ppp*

Cl *Clarineti in C* *ppp*

Bsn

Cr1 *pp*

Cr2

S

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

Recit[ativo]
Allegro

85

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

pp

ppp

f

90

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Oh! che_a-scol-to? che veg-gio? Nò, _ non m'in -gan-no; e - gli_è Fin-gal, mio

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 90 to 93. Measures 90 and 91 are mostly rests for the woodwinds and strings. In measure 92, Violin 1 (Vl1) has a melodic line starting with a forte (f) dynamic. Violin 2 (Vl2) and Viola (Vla) have chords. Violoncello (Vcl) and Contrabass (Cb) have single notes. The Soprano (S) part has lyrics: "Oh! che_a-scol-to? che veg-gio? Nò, _ non m'in -gan-no; e - gli_è Fin-gal, mio". The lyrics are written below the staff. The measure numbers 90, 91, 92, and 93 are written above the staves.

94

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

be-ne, ei vi-ve, e tor-na pièn del-la sua fa-ma; io sen - to la

Vl1

p

f

Vl2

p

f

Vla

p

f

Vcl

p

f

Cb

p

f

104

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

p

mè! ohi - mè! che vi - cen - - da imp-ro - vi - sa, che vi -

mf

cresc

mf

cresc

mf

cresc

mf

cresc

mf

cresc

108

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

cen - da, im - pro - vi - sa, che tu - mul - to d'af - fet - ti m'af - fo - ga, il _____

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

tr

tr

tr

tr

113

Fl *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl

Bsn *mf* *p*

Cr1 *mf*

Cr2 *mf*

S
cuor _____ Ohi - mè! che vi - cen - - da, im-pro -

Vl1 *mf*

Vl2 *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vcl *mf*

Cb *mf*

29

121

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

fet - ti m'af - fo - - ga il cuor! Ohi - mè! che vi - cen - da im-pro -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

mf

p

fp

mf

f

p

mf

f

p

mf

f

p

p

p

31

131

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

mul - to ____ d'af - fet - ti m'af - fo - ga il ____ cuor il cuor che tu -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

mf

f

tr

rf

33

142

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

dol - - ce, cor - ri ve - lo - ce, A - mor mio dol - - ce

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

pp

[p]

p

147

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

cor - - ri ve - lo - ce, deh! fam - mi_u - di - re tua gen - - til

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

152

Fl *p*

Ob

Cl *p*

Bsn *p*

Cr1

Cr2

S
Vo - ce, che il cuor mi mol - ce mio bel _____ te - sor; _____ deh! fam - mi_u -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

37

[illegible]

169

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

pp

175

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

mi_u di re tua vo ce mio bel _____ te

Vl1

p *mf*

Vl2

p *mf*

Vla

p *mf*

Vcl

p *mf*

Cb

p *mf*

41

186

Fl *p* *f*

Ob *p* *f*

Cl *p* *f*

Bsn *p* *f*

Cr1 *p* *f*

Cr2 *p* *f*

S
Ohi - mè! ohi - mè! che vi -

Vl1 *mf*

Vl2 *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vcl *mf*

Cb *mf*

191

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

cen - - da_imp-ro - vi - sa, che vi - cen - da_im - pro - vi - sa, che tu -

Vl1

cresc

p

Vl2

cresc

p

Vla

cresc

p

Vcl

cresc

p

Cb

cresc

p

44

200

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

mè! che vi - cen - - da, im-pro - vi - sa, che vi - cen - da, im - pro - vi - sa, che tu -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

mf

p

mf

p

mf

p

mf

mf

mf

mf

205

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

mul - to d'af - fet - ti m'af - fo - - ga il cuor, che tu - mul - to d'af -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

mf

f

47

216

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

dol - ce, cor - ri ve - lo - ce, deh! fam - mi_u - di - re tua

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 216 to 220. The woodwind section (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon) has mostly rests, with the Bassoon playing a melodic line in measures 217-218 and 220. The strings (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Contrabass) play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Soprano part has the lyrics: 'dol - ce, cor - ri ve - lo - ce, deh! fam - mi_u - di - re tua'.

221

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

gen - - til vo - ce, che il cuor _____ mi mol - ce mio bel te -

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

50

233

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

bel _____ te - sor _____ deh! fam - mi_u - di - re, deh!

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

52

245

Fl

Ob

Cl

Bsn

Cr1

Cr2

S

Vl1

Vl2

Vla

Vcl

Cb

p

p

p

ce, deh! fam - - - - -

54

[illegible]

A musical score page showing measures 263 through 268. The instruments are Flute (Fl), Oboe (Ob), Clarinet (Cl), Bassoon (Bsn), Cor Anglais (Cr1), Cor Anglais (Cr2), Saxophone (S), Violin I (Vl1), Violin II (Vl2), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vcl), and Contrabass (Cb). The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. Measures 263-268 show various instrumental entries and dynamics like f (forte). Measure 267 features a forte entry for the Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, and Cor Anglais. Measure 268 shows a continuation of the orchestral texture with various instruments playing sustained notes or chords.

Critical notes

This score is the first modern edition of the scena¹ “Scene e Aria aus »La morte di Comala« nach Ossian von Antonio Ganganelli”, G.73, for soprano and orchestra by the Danish composer Georg Gerson (1790-1825). The song is composed April 1, 1813.

The sources are

- MS* “Partiturer No. 3”, “George Gersons samling: mu 7105.0963 C II, 6b” (1823), a collection of manuscript scores by Gerson preserved at the Royal Library of Copenhagen, Denmark. The score is found on pp. 1–33, dated August 18, 1812.
- COP* “Duetten und Romanzen”, “C II, 140 tv. Fol. 1910-11.172”, a collection of manuscript copies written around 1825 preserved at the Royal Library of Copenhagen, Denmark. This manuscript contains the piano reduction score only on pp. 32–41.

In his thematic catalogue (“Verzeichniss über Zwei Hundert meiner Compositionen”) Gerson states that the song was performed at an amateur concert in april (1813) with Hanne Henriques as soloist. Gerson refers to a series of ‘amateur concerts’ 1809–1813 directed by Claus Schall (1757–1835), principal violinist at the Royal Orchestra in Copenhagen.

Hanne Henriques performed as soloist in several amateur concerts arranged by musical societies like “Selskabet til Musikens Udbredelse”, with Gerson as promoter. Works performed included Mozart’s “Requiem”, Haydn’s “Die Schöpfung” and Beethoven’s “Christus am Oelberge”.²

The orchestra includes 2 clarinets in A, changing to clarinets in C. Gerson omits the key signatures in the clarinet part as in notation typical for brass instruments. Expert in historical clarinets, Ernst Schlader, professor at “Staatliche Hochschule für Musik, Frankfurt am Main” has kindly explained that you may encounter an else uncommon clarinet notation like that in church music from around 1800, most likely as an attempt to simplify the reading.

Gerson ascribes the text to “Antonio Ganganelli”, according to “Hamburgisches Adress-Buch” living as Italian and Latin teacher in Hamburg 1803–1812, i.e. during the French occupation. Gerson was most likely among his pupils. Ganganelli edited an anthology of Italian literature³ In the preface he presents himself as member of the Florentine Academy and the “Accademia degli Arcadi” in Rome. The editor has not been able to find any source of the text with Ganganelli as poet. However, the text of the recitativo sections are, with minor differences, also found in Melchiorre Cesarotti’s (1730–1808) Italian reproduction of James Macpherson’s Ossian poems (1763). Apparently Ganganelli contributed only the words of the aria sections.

The piano reduction in *COP* varies frequently from *MS*. Only a subset of these variants are reflected below.

In his manuscripts Gerson made use of various shorthand notations like slashed notes representing repeated notes. Such notation types are also found in music prints from that period like Gerson’s string quartet no. 5 (G.63) published as part books 1826. The full score of this modern edition comes in two versions: a score keeping as close as possible to the original notation and an alternative, ‘contemporized’ score expanding the shorthand notations. In the contemporized scores the beaming of vocal staves has been adapted to modern practices. Separate parts are contemporized as well.

When a slurred phrase obviously starts with tied notes the tie is often omitted: 

In the modern edition the tie has been added:  (G.41, String Quintet, movement 1, VII. bar 55–56.)

Performance indications within brackets and dashed ties and slurs have been added by the editor.

Bar No.	Part	Note No.	Comment
2	Pno r		 in <i>COP</i> .
14–15	Cl,Fg,Pno		Incomplete accidentals in <i>MS</i> .
18	Solo S	6	No accidental ♯ in <i>MS</i> .
19	Pno r		Incomplete accidentals in <i>MS</i> .
20	VII	3	No accidental ♯ in <i>MS</i> .
21	Ob2,Vla	1	No accidental ♯ in <i>MS</i> .
22	VII2	1	No accidental ♯ in <i>MS</i> .

¹ *Scena*: a vocal composition consisting of recitatives, arias, ensembles etc., either from various operas and singspiele or composed as such like those by Gerson. Scenas are frequently found in early 19th century concert programmes.

² See Nicolaj Christian Abrahams, “Meddelelser af mit Liv”, Copenhagen 1876, p. 76.

³ “Raccolta Di Prose, E Poesie Di Vario Genere, Ad Uso De’ Studiosi Della Lingua Toscana”, Hamburg 1810.

Bar No.	Part	Note No.	Comment
29	VII	1	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
30	VI2	2	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
38	Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .
30	Vla, Vcl, Cb, Bsn	3–4	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
39	Ob, Bsn	2	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
39–41	Vla	2	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
40	Fl	2	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
41	Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .
42	Vla	2	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
50–51	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .
54	Pno r	6	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
55	Pno r	6	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
56	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .
60	Pno l		 in <i>COP</i> .
86	Fl1, Pno	1	No accidental $\flat$ in <i>MS</i> .
86–87	Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .
92	Pno l		 in <i>COP</i> .
95	Vcl, Cb	1	δ tremolo in <i>MS</i> .
101	Pno r	4	No accidental $\flat$ on “d” in <i>MS</i> .
104–107	Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .
109	Pno r		 in <i>COP</i> .
112	Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .
116, 201	Fl1	1–3	Slur modified in analogy with bar 260.
117	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .
119	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .
130–133	Solo Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .

Bar No.	Part	Note No.	Comment
131	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .
133	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .
134	Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .
155	Solo S	2	No accidental # in <i>MS</i> .
163–168	Solo S		<i>MS</i> has alternative notes (ossia) notated in Fl. 1. In <i>COP</i> these notes are main notes.
204	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .
241	V12	2	♩ in <i>MS</i> .
242	Fg1–2		No change to bass clef in <i>MS</i> .
245	Pno		 in <i>COP</i> .
252–254	Solo S		 in <i>COP</i> .

Literary text

RECITATIVO

O Carrone, o Carron,
perché mai veggio ruotar nel sangue
le tue torbid' Onde?
Forse sulle tue sponde
suonò il fragor della battaglia?
Forse Il Re di Morven dorme?
Escine, o Luna,
in questa notte bruna,
la via m'addita, che al mio ben conduce.
Lassa! chi mi difende dal dolore,
dall' Amor dell' odiato Idallàno
E quando mai potrò mirare
il mio diletto Eroe,
volgersi in mezzo alle sue forti squadre,
Lucido, come raggio oriental,
che splende fuor del rosato grembo
di Nube matutina?
Dov' é il mio Bene?
Ahi Comala meschina!

ARIA

Se ò perduto il caro Sposo,
Infelice! che farò?
non aviò mai più riposo,
pel dolore io morirò

RECITATIVO

Oh! che ascolto? che veggio?
Nò, non m'inganno;
egli è Fingal, mio bene,
ei vive, e torna pièn della sua fama;
io sento la man delle battaglie!

ARIA

Ohimè! che vicenda improvvisa,
che tumulto d'affetti m'affoga il cuor
Amor mio dolce,
corri veloce,
deh! fammi udire tua gentil Voce,
che il cuor mi molce
mio bel tesor?