

Listening Guide for Claudio Monteverdi, *L'Orfeo, favola in musica*

A concordance between the 1609 printed score, Anne Ridler's English translation (in volume two of the sourcebook), and the recording by Chiaroscuro and the London Baroque Orchestra directed by Nigel Rogers and Charles Medlam available online as streaming audio (via the [Classical Music Library](#), or CML).

Note: The character that is singing is indicated in bold capital letters and the page numbers for the libretto and score in the sourcebooks refer to the pagination of the original prints and not the modern pagination found at the very bottom of the pages.

<i>CML Mvt. #</i>	<i>Elapsed Time</i>	<i>Movement</i>	<i>Libretto page #</i>	<i>Score page #</i>	<i>Stage Directions</i>
Toccata					
1	0:00	Toccata	82	[0]	Toccata which is played before the raising of the curtain three times with all the instruments, and it is done a tone higher wishing to play the trumpets with mutes.
Prologue					
2	0:00	<i>Ritornello 1</i>	82	1	
3	0:32	MUSIC verse 1 "Dal mio Permesso"			
	1:20	<i>Ritornello 1A</i>		2	
	1:34	v. 2 "Io la Musica son"			
	2:15	<i>Ritornello 1A</i>		3	
	2:28	v. 3 "Io su cetera"			
	3:10	<i>Ritornello 1A</i>		4	
	3:23	v. 4 "Quinci a dirvi"			
	4:03	<i>Ritornello 1A</i>		5	
	4:18	v. 5 "Hor metre i canti"			
5:53	<i>Ritornello 1</i>	6			

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Act I					
4	0:00	SHEPHERD "In questo"	82	6	
5	0:00	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Vien' Imeneo"	83	8	This song was performed to the sound of all the instruments.
6	0:43	NYMPH "Muse, honor di Parnaso"	83	8	
7	0:00	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Lasciate i monti"		10	This Balletto was sung to the sound of five <i>viole da braccio</i> [a choir of violin-style strings] , three chitarroni, two harpsichords, a double harp, a double bass, and a little flute [recorder] at the twenty-second.
	0:30	<i>Ritornello</i>		11	
8	1:45	SHEPHERD "Ma tu gentil"	84	13	
9	0:00	ORPHEUS "Rosa del ciel"			
10	0:00	EURIDICE "Io no dirò"		14	
11	0:00	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Lasicate i monti"		15	
	0:30	<i>Ritornello</i>		85	16
12	0:00	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Vien' Imeneo"		17	
13	0:00	SHEPHERD "Ma s'il nostro gioir"	18		
	0:47	<i>Ritornello 2</i>	19		
14	0:00	TWO SHEPHERDS "Alcun non sia"	20		
	0:42	<i>Ritornello 2</i>	21		
15	0:00	THREE SHEPHERDS "Che poi che nembo"	22		
	0:38	<i>Ritornello 2</i>	23		
16	0:00	TWO SHEPHERDS "E dopo l'aspro gel"	24		

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	0:32	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Ecco Orfeo"		25	
Act II					
17	0:00	<i>Sinfonia 1</i>	86	26	
18	0:00	ORPHEUS "Ecco pur"		27	
	0:45	<i>Ritornello 3</i>			This ritornello was played from within by a harpsichord, two chitarroni, and two little French-style violins.
	0:54	SHEPHERD "Mira ch'a se n'alletta"		28	
	1:05	<i>Ritornello 3</i>	86	28	This ritornello was played by two ordinary violins, a bass violin, a harpsichord, and two chitarroni.
	1:13	SHEPHERD "Su quel'herbosa"	86	28	
	1:24	<i>Ritornello 4</i>			
	1:39	TWO SHEPHERDS "In questo prato adorno"	87	29	A harpsichord and a chitarrone.
	1:52	<i>Ritornello 4</i>			
	2:06	TWO SHEPHERDS "Qui Pan dio de'Pastori"			
	2:18	<i>Ritornello 5</i>		30	This was played from within by two chitarroni, a harpsichord, and two little recorders.
2:30	TWO SHEPHERDS "Qui le Napee vezzose"				
2:45	<i>Ritornello 5</i>		31		
2:57	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Dunque fa degno Orfeo"				
19	3:11	<i>Ritornello 6</i>		32	This ritornello was played from within by five <i>viole da braccio</i> , a double bass, two harpsichords, and three chitarroni.

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19	3:24	ORPHEUS v. 1 "Vi ricorda bosch'ombrosi"	87	33	
	3:48	<i>Ritornello 6</i>			
	4:01	v. 2 "Dite all'hor"			
	4:26	<i>Ritornello 6</i>		34	
	4:39	v. 3 "Vissi già"			
	5:05	<i>Ritornello 6</i>		35	
	5:17	v. 4 "Sol per te"			
20	0:00	SHEPHERD "Mira deh mira Orfeo"			
21	0:00	MESSENGER : "Ahi! Caso acerbo!"	88	36	An organ and a chit[arrone].
	0:56	SHEPHERD "Qual suon"			A harpsichord, chitarrone, and viola da braccio [cello]
	1:03	MESSENGER "Lassa, dunque debb'io"			
	1:34	SHEPHERD "Questa è Silvia"			
21	2:05	MESSENGER "Pastor lasciate il canto"	88	36	
	2:19	ORPHEUS "Donde vieni?"			
	2:27	MESSENGER "A te ne vengo Orfeo"			
	2:49	ORPHEUS "Ohime"			
	2:55	MESSENGER "La tue diletta"			
	3:10	ORPHEUS "Ohime"			
22	3:26	MESSENGER "In uno fiorita prato"	89	37	
23	6:04	SHEPHERD "Ahi! Caso acerbo!"; "A l'amara"; "Ahi ben"		38	
24	0:00	ORPHEUS "Tu se'morta"		39	An organ and a chittarone.

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25	0:00	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Ahi! Caso acerbo!"	90	40	
26	1:14	MESSENGER "Ma io"		41	
27	2:37	<i>Sinfonia 2</i>		42	
28	0:00	TWO SHEPHERDS "Chi ne consola"			Two shepherds sing to the sound of the organ and a chitarrone.
29	0:00	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Ahi! Caso acerbo!" [short version]		44	
30	0:00	TWO SHEPHERDS "Ma dove"			
31	0:00	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS "Ahi! Caso acerbo!" [short version]	91	46	
32	0:00	<i>Ritornello 1</i>			
Act III					
33	0:00	<i>Sinfonia 3</i>	91	47	Here enter the trombones, cornetti, and regals, and the violins, organs, and harpsichords are silent, and the scene changes.
34	0:00	ORPHEUS : "Scorta da te"		48	
35	0:00	HOPE : "Ecco l'altra palude"	92		
36	0:00	ORPHEUS "Dove, ah dove ten vai"		50	
37	0:00	CHARON v. 1 "O tu ch'innanzi"	92	50	Caronte sings to the sound of the regal.
38	1:35	<i>Sinfonia 4</i>	93	51	
39	0:00	ORPHEUS v. 1 "Possente spirto"		52	Orfeo to the sound of the organ, and a chitarrone, sings one only of the two parts.
	1:20	<i>Ritornello 7</i> [version 1]		54	violin / violin
	1:46	v. 2 "Non vivo io"		55	
	2:42	<i>Ritornello 7</i> [version 2]	56	two cornetti	

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	2:59	v. 3 "A lei volt'ho"		58	
	4:25	<i>Ritornello 7</i> [version 3]		61	double harp
40	0:00	v. 4 "Orfeo son'io"		62	violin / violin / bass violin
	1:20	v. 5 "O de le luce"		64	
41	2:28	v. 6 "Sol tu, nobile dio"		65	The other parts were played by three <i>viole da braccio</i> , and a double bass, played very quietly.
42	0:00	CHARON v. 2 "Ben mi lusinga"			
	0:43	ORPHEUS "Ahi sventurato amante"		66	
43	2:07	<i>Sinfonia 4</i>	94	67	This sinfonia was played very quietly, with <i>viole da braccio</i> , an organ, and a <i>contrabasso de Viola da gamba</i> .
44	0:00	ORPHEUS : "Ei dorme"			Orfeo sings to the sound of the organ only.
	1:04	"Mentre versan"		68	Here he enters into the boat and passes singing to the sound of the organ
45	0:00	<i>Sinfonia 3</i>			
46	0:34	INFERNAL SPIRITS "Nulla impresa"		70	Chorus of Spirits, to the sound of the organ, five trombones, two bass gambas, and a <i>contrabasso de viola</i> .
	2:16	<i>Sinfonia 3</i>	95	73	
Act IV					
47	0:00	PERSEPHONE "Signor, quel infelice"	95	74	
48	0:00	PLUTO "Benche severo"		75	
49	0:00	SPIRIT "O degli habitatori"	96	76	
	0:33	ANOTHER SPIRIT "Trarà da questi orribili"			
50	0:00	PERSEPHONE "Quali gratie"	96	76	
	0:56	PLUTO "Tue soavi parole"		77	

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51	0:00	INFERNAL SPIRITS "Pietade oggi"			
52	0:19	SPIRIT "Ecco il gentil cantore"	97	78	
53	0:00	<i>Ritornello 8</i>			violin / violin
54	0:09	ORPHEUS v. 1 "Qual'honor"			
	0:24	<i>Ritornello 8</i>			
	0:32	v. 2 "Luogo havrai"			
	0:48	<i>Ritornello 8</i>		79	
	0:57	v. 3 "Io per te"			
55	1:15	"Ma mentre io canto"		80	
	2:17	"Ma che odo?"			Here a noise is made behind the curtain. Orfeo follows singing to the harpsichord, strings, and chitarrone.
56	2:44	"O dolcissimi lumi"			Here Orfeo turns, and sings to the sound of the organ.
	2:56	"Ma qual eclissi"		81	Here Orfeo sings to the sound of the harpsichord, bass <i>viola da braccio</i> [cello] and a chitarrone.
	3:03	SPIRIT "Rott'hai la legge"			
57	0:00	EURIDICE "Ahi, vista troppo dolce"			
58	1:01	SPIRIT : "Torn' à l'ombre"	98		
59	1:19	ORPHEUS "Dove te'n vai mia vita?"			
60	0:00	<i>Sinfonia 5</i>		82	
61	0:36	INFERNAL SPIRITS "E la virtute"		84	
62	2:06	<i>Sinfonia 5</i>		87	
Act V					

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63	0:00	<i>Ritornello 1</i>	99	88	The cornetti, trombones, and regals fall silent, and there enter, to play this ritornello, the strings, organs, harpsichords, double bass, and harps, and chitarroni, and ceteroni, and the scene changes.
64	0:35	ORPHEUS Lament "Questi i campi di Traccia"	99	89	Two organs, and two chitarroni, performed this song, one playing at the left corner of the scene, and the other at the right.
65	2:07	"Vuoi vi doleste"			
66	0:00	"Ma tu anima mea"	100	91	
67	1:04	"Tu bella fusti"			
68	2:15	"Hor l'altre donne"		92	
69	0:00	<i>Sinfonia 4</i>		93	
70	0:00	APOLLO "Perch'a lo sdegno"	101	94	
	1:05	ORPHEUS "Padre cortese"			
	1:49	APOLLO "Troppo troppo gioisti"			
	2:40	ORPHEUS "Si non vedrò"			
	3:01	APOLLO "Nel sole"		95	
	3:11	ORPHEUS "Ben di cotanto"			
71	4:05	ORPHEUS and APOLLO Duet: "Salam"			
72	0:00	<i>Ritornello 9</i>		97	
73	0:17	NYMPHS AND SHEPHERDS v. 1 "Vanne Orfeo"		98	
	0:35	<i>Ritornello 9</i>		97	
	0:52	v. 2 "Così va"		98	
74	0:00	<i>Moresca</i>	102	100	