Antonio Salieri

(1750-1825)

Duetto

Saper vorrei se m'ami

Score

Edited by Christian Mondrup

Duetto











Critical notes

This score is the first modern edition of a "Duetto", for soprano and tenor and piano by the Italian composer Antonio Salieri (1750–1825).

The source is

PR

an addendum to an article on the death of the composer in the periodical, "Wiener Zeitschrift für Kunst, Literatur, Theater und Mode" 1825, vol. 116.

Joseph Haydn (1732–1809) wrote a duetto (Hob.XXVa/2) to the same poem which he ascribed to Carlo Francesco Badini (ca.1710–ca.1810), author of the libretto to his opera "L'anima del filosofo ossia Orfeo ed Euridice" (Hob.XXVIII/13). In a manuscript copy of this song, "Governativo G-Mss-258" (1811–1840), preserved at Conservatorio di musica S. Cecilia, Roma Metasasio, is stated as poet. Another duetto to this text by the Danish composer, Georg Gerson (1790–1825) is found in manuscript, "Partiturer No. 5", "George Gersons samling: mu 7105.0963 C II, 6b" pp. 182–191 preserved at the Royal Library of Copenhagen, Denmark. Gerson ascribes the poem to Metastasio. The text in the 3 duettos differ somewhat from each other.

Salieri made use of various shorthand notations like slashed notes representing repeated notes. 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.

Bar No.	Part	Note No.	Comment
21	Pno lh	1	Change to tenor clef in PR.
28	Pno lh	2	Change to tenor clef in PR.
40	Pno rh	2	No accidental ♭ on "e" in orig.

Literary text

Dori

Saper vorrei se m'ami, s'altro di me tu brami, se per me solo vivi, se vivo sola in te.

SILENO

Questo saper vorresti?

DORI

Questo saper vorrei,

SILENO

Oh quanto ingrata sei!

Dori

Ingrata o Dio, perchè?

SILENO

Sanno le piante e i monti, l'aure, gli augelli, i fonti, e sola tu non sai; l'anima mia qual' Dori

Lo so, ma bramo sentirlo ognor ridir,

SILENO

Ah insiem se il replichiamo, ah quanto fia il gioir!

SILENO

Comincia che attentissima tuoi detti può seguir.

DORI E SILENO

Più di quest' occhi io t'amo, più della vita mia: solo il mio ben sarai, sempre ti vò adorar. Piacere egual' a questo, chi mai potria provar. sempre ti vò adorar.

¹ See Joseph Haydn Werke Reihe XXIX, Band 2, München 1988.

² synonym for Pietro Antonio Domenico Trapassi (1698–1782)

³ "Scritto da Metastasio e messo in musica da Haydn mentre i due illustri Autori convivevano nella Stessa Casa".