HENRY PURCELL

Welcome to all the Pleasures

Alusical Entertainment

PERFORM'D
On NOVEMBER XXII. 1683.
IT BEING THE

Festival of St. Cecilia, a great Patroneß of Music;

WHOSE

MEMORY is Annually honour'd by a public *Feast* made on that Day by the Masters and Lovers of **Music**, as well in *England* as in Foreign Parts.

LONDON,

Printed by *J. Playford* Junior, and are to be sold by *John Playford* near the *Temple* Church, and *John Carr* at the *Middle Temple* Gate, 1684.

Full Score

Transcribed and edited by
David Millard
Éditions Doulce Mémoire

TO THE

GENTLEMEN OF THE

Musical Society,

And particularly the

STEWARDS

For the YEAR ensuing.

William Bridgman, Esq;
Nicholas Staggins, Doctor in Music;
Gilbert Dolben, Esq; and
Mr. Francis Forcer.

GENTLEMEN

OUR kind Approbation and benign Reception of the Perfornance of these *Musical Compositions* on St. *Cecilia's* day, (by way of Gratitude) claim this Dedication; which likewise furnishes the Author with an opportunity of letting the World know the Obligation he lies under to you; and that he is to all Lovers of Music,

A real Friend and Servant,

HENRY PURCELL.





1) Playford's use of double bars is ambiguous. Repeats may be intended at these points.



























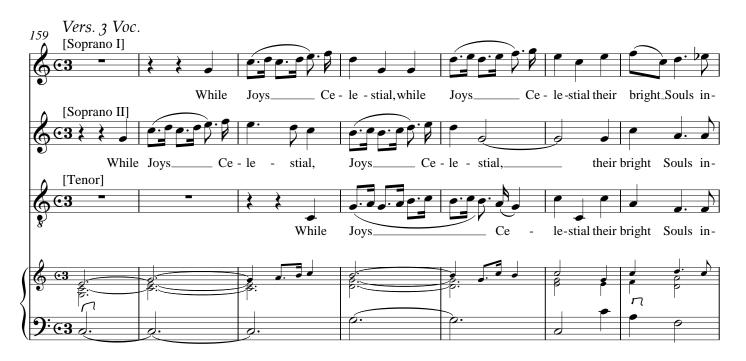


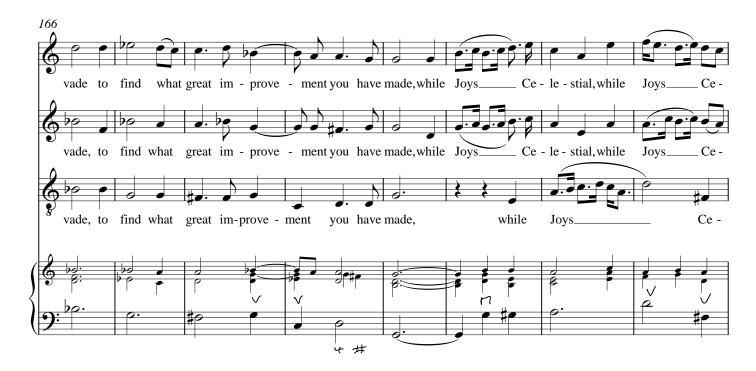




































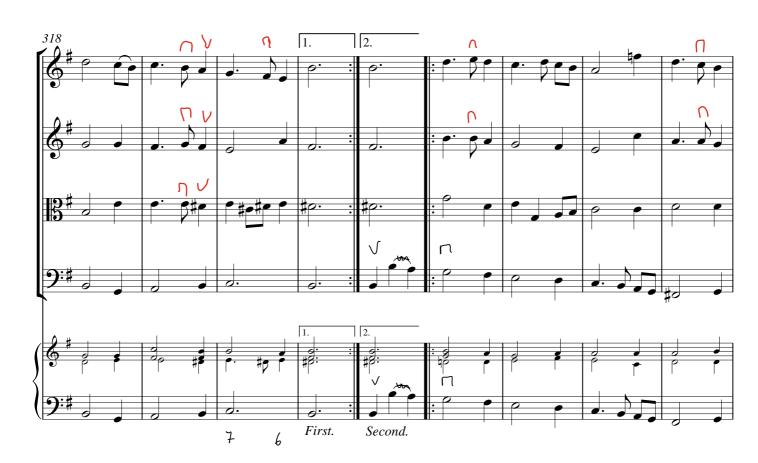


























Editorial Note

The unique source of this work is Playford's 1684 publication titled:

Α

Musical Entertainment

PERFORM'D
On November XXII. 1683.
IT BEING THE

Festival of St. Cecilia, a great Patroneß of Music; Whose

MEMORY is Annually honour'd by a public *Feast* made on that Day by the Masters and Lovers of **Music**, as well in *England* as in Foreign Parts.

It comprises, apart from flyleaves, a two-page dedication (reproduced at the beginning of this edition) and forty pages of music (numbered 1-40). The music is printed in a typical seventeenth-century letterpress typeface with no beaming of short note values (quavers, semiquavers, etc.) and with a maximum of eight staves per page, usually laid out in two systems of four staves, the exceptions being the solo verses at measures 101, 210 and 285, which are set on four two-stave systems and the final chorus with obbligato violins and instrumental bass on a single system of seven staves per page. The parts are not named in the source, and I have named them after the usage in Hepinstall's print of Purcell's music for Dioclesian (hence 'tenor violin' and 'bass violin' instead of viola and 'cello). The parts are readily identified by clef, the violins and sopranos being in G2 clef, counter tenor in C3, tenor in C4, tenor violin in C2, and bass and bass violin in F4.

Owing to the four-stave format, transitions between instruments and voices, and between verse and chorus involve clef changes and even staff changes, sometimes mid-line. (See below for additional discussion of problems associated with scores as sources.) Verses are identified at the beginning of the verse sections and by the fact that the lyrics are printed in normal typeface. Chorus sections are designated 'Chorus' and by the use of italics for chorus lyrics. Proper names are italicized in verses and rendered in normal type in choruses. Substantives are capitalized. I have not followed the italicization practice of the original, but I have retained the original capitalizations. Occasional deviations from modern spelling (e.g. we'l for we'll) have been silently modernized.

The text is identified as having been written by Christopher Fishburn (e.g. in the *New Grove* and in various articles on Purcell's odes). I have not been able to determine how this identification was made, as Fishburn's name appears nowhere in the source. Fishburn was a nephew of Sir Christopher Wren and a minor poet and musician. The 1683 performance of *Welcome to All the Pleasures*, along with Purcell's *Laudate Cæciliam* is generally regarded as the first of the seventeenth-century St. Cecilia festivals, at least in London, for the title page does suggest that other observances in England had previously taken place.

The 17th Century Score as Source

According to Holman (1996) the fire at the palace at Whitehall in 1698 probably destroyed a significant amount of musical performance materials in the palace library. 'For this reason,' he says, 'nearly all of Purcell's major works survive only in score.' Although it is unlikely that performance parts for Welcome to All the Pleasures were among them, it is important to note that scores were not, except in a limited way, performance documents. The purpose of a score in the 17th century was primarily archival-it allowed the work to be stored or disseminated in an economical form, and served as the basis for preparing parts for performance. At its best, a score would provide all the relevant information about what was to be played and sung and by what forces (except that the exact numbers of players and singers are not specified). Typically, however, certain shorthand practices employed to save space create ambiguities about what was intended by the composer. The present source is no exception. The principal questions raised by the score are: 1) what happens at transitions where one part gives way to another part?, 2) what do the strings do during the choruses?, 3) what does the tenor violin do in the final chorus?, and 4) what exactly should the bowed bass instrument play?

Regarding the first question, there are several junctures where a finishing voice part gives way to an instrument that has an anacrusis. At measure 86, the soprano, countertenor and tenor each finish with a dotted crotchet followed by a quaver that is played by one of the instruments. The bass finishes with a

minim as the instrumental bass does not enter until the next downbeat. Should the upper voices extend their note to match the bass? Should the vocal bass shorten its note to match the other singers? Again, at m. 184, the two soprano soloists and the tenor soloist end with a minim followed by a crotchet played by an instrument. The instrumental bass, which has been doubling the tenor, ends with a dotted minim. In each case I have opted to match the voices to the longer note value, but have indicated above what the original note value was. (See also m. 335 for a similar case that had to be resolved the other way.)

As to the second question, the difficulty is greater. It is likely that the instruments are intended to continue playing during the choruses, but should they simply double the voice lines at the unison, V1 with S, V2 with Ct, TV with T and BV with B? I made a quick study of a number of Purcell's choral works, both anthems and odes, where the source score provides obbligato parts for the strings during the choruses. For the most part the instruments doubled the singers in some fashion, but not in a one to one correspondence. Most frequently, V1 doubles Ct at the octave while V2 doubles S at the unison, but not typically for the whole chorus¹. At times they trade off with V2 doubling Ct at the unison for a few measures. At other times T is doubled at the octave while the tenor violin doubles Ct at the unison. Trade-offs are made frequently with octave doublings changing somewhat capriciously. The main criterion seems to be to keep the instruments in an established tessitura, although some of the octave shifts may have been used to avoid consecutive fifths. I have provided instrumental parts for the choruses utilizing all these techniques as they sounded best to me. These sections are in cue-sized notes to identify them as editorial.

It may be argued that in sources like the present one (and this is true of some of the anthems as well) where no effort was made to write obbligato string parts that the intended doubling (if any) was *colla parte* at the unison. It also might be said that copyists preparing parts from a score would not take such liberties as to redistribute the doublings. Certainly a less adventurous doubling could be used, but I would counsel the octave doubling of the countertenor line. Anyone who wishes to put in the effort of recopying the string parts in this fashion is

welcome to. Otherwise the strings may remain silent in these sections.

A further consideration may have a bearing on the matter. Peter Holman's brief study of a collection of performance parts for collegiate odes at Oxford is very revealing. There are several instances of parts that were shared by an instrumentalist *and* a singer. They consisted of a mixture of vocal and instrumental lines, usually in succession, occasionally side by side. Under this scenario, a violinist might stand next to a countertenor, playing the Symphony and ritornelli, remaining silent for the verses, and playing the vocal line (at the octave?) in the choruses

The third question is related to the second. In the final chorus the violins are provided with independent obbligato parts. It seems unlikely that the tenor violin was to remain silent while the rest of the ensemble performed; therefore, I have provided a part created by variously doubling the Ct and T parts. Again, it is presented in editorial small notes.

Regarding the fourth question, Holman's study of the Oxford performance provides an answer. In scores such as the present source, instrumental and vocal basses are often conflated on a single staff, at least for part of the work. The full part sets typically provide music for the bowed bass solely during the instrumental sections and the choruses. Only in the thorough bass part (for organist and/or theorbist) is the bass line of the verse sections provided. This strongly suggests that a bowed instrument is not routinely used as part of the continuo group, although it is not impossible that a bass violin player could have shared the theorbist's part.

In addition, in the sections of the score where an independently notated bass line doubles the lowest voice, it is often simplified: repeated pitches for the singer are treated as a single longer note in the bass; certain passing notes and other ornamental gestures are omitted (see, for example, mm. 162–184). I have employed these techniques in chorus sections where the vocal bass is the only bass line. A further note: according to Holman, the Oxford materials provide evidence of organ and theorbo as the only continuo instruments. They offer no evidence of the use of harpsichord or of string basses at 16' pitch.

The Thorough Bass part

The bass line in the score is unfigured throughout (with the curious exception of m. 216). Certainly, Purcell's harmonies are not so predictable

¹ The practice of having the first violin double the alto at the octave is well attested elsewhere. See, for example, Vivaldi's scoring in his *Magnificat* or *Gloria*. Purcell's more elaborate doublings are an area for further study.

that one could rely on any sort of regola della ottava to realize the bass. Holman discovered in the Oxford materials that '[b]y and large, the odes have only a single one-stave continuo part in addition to the string bass parts, but it may be that these continuo parts were used by theorbo players, and that organists read from the score.' There are some instances of two-stave parts, partly figured, with cues and vocal lines provided on the upper staff. The suggestion that the organist played from the score gains support from Roger North, writing in the 1720s, that scores made 'the best thro base part' as they permitted the players to 'observe the Composition, as they goe along'². This readily explains the lack of figures. I have provided a realization of the bass in the score as well as a realized part for a keyboard player. For the sake of players who do not wish to be distracted by another's realization I have prepared an editorially figured part.

Time Signatures and Tempo Relations

Anyone who has examined the available sources that discuss time signatures in Restoration music is aware of the inconsistencies and contradictions among the authors involved. This is not the place to examine the question at length. Interested readers are referred to Laurie (1995) and Houle (1987). Even Arnold Dolmetsch writing in 1915 has some helpful insights to offer. The discussions revolve around the many editions of Playford's An Introduction to the Skill of Musick, Purcell's A Choice Collection of Lessons for the Harpsichord, and later sources such as Dean's Compleat Tutor for the Violin. The main issue is the relation between the signs \mathbf{C} , \mathbf{C} and \mathbf{D} and what, if any, proportional significance they may have. If there is a general consensus among the various authors, it is:

C slow time; in four

c somewhat faster; still in four

 ϕ quick; twice as fast as \mathbf{C} ; in two

To further confuse matters, they may be modified by time words such as 'quick', 'brisk', or 'grave'. In *Welcome to all the pleasures*, duple sections are all in \diamondsuit with the exception of mm. 66–100, which are in \diamondsuit . One difficulty we have is that we do not know how carefully Purcell supervised

Playford's publication. We cannot be certain that the signs all stem from Purcell, or if Playford omitted any tempo words that Purcell may have used, and certainly, it would be inadvisable to perform all the \$\mathbb{C}\$ sections at the same tempo. Ultimately, the conductor's sense of style must be the final arbiter. It strikes me, however, that mm. 66–100 should not be treated as twice as fast as the previous section, as other editors have suggested. Similarly, the opening portion of the Symphony and the countertenor verse 'Here the Deities approve' seem to demand a slower tempo than that of the basic \$\mathbb{C}\$. My personal sense of tempi suitable to these signatures (unmodified by tempo words) is:

 $\mathbf{C} = 60-72$

 \diamondsuit J = 100-112

 $\oint d = 60-72$

There are difficulties with the triple metre sections of the work. All triple metre sections are barred in groupings of three crotchets, but some of the time signatures are not clear. For the most part, the signature appears to be **©3**, in places (e.g. in the violin lines in m.17), the signature might be **©3**. I have taken it that in all cases **©3** is intended. Again, there may be proportional significance to the use of this signature. The reader is referred to Laurie (1995) for a discussion of tempo relations and time changes in Purcell's continuous multi-section works.

Editorial Procedure

All original note values, time signatures and key signatures have been retained. Stems have been beamed where appropriate. Original slurs and ligatures (ties) have been retained. Dots that have force over barlines have been replaced with tied notes. For the most part, accidentals have been applied in the original to all notes to which they apply, even when the same pitch occurs in succession. Redundant accidentals have been omitted. Cancelling accidentals that occur in the original appear here full size (naturals have been substituted for flats that cancel sharps and for sharps that cancel flats). In a few cases where a cancellation was not explicitly marked, but implied by the presence of intervening notes, the cancelling accidental has been bracketed thus: [4]. Editorial cautionary and courtesy accidentals are enclosed in parentheses: (\$). Original courtesy accidentals appear full size (see Ct., m. 236 for an example). The

² Quoted in the preface to *The Restoration Anthem Vol. One*, ed. Dexter and Webber, Oxford, 2003.

various spellings of 'verse' (e.g. *vers*) have been retained. In the original, the designation [*Ritor*.] for 'Ritornello' appeared in brackets. The brackets have been suppressed except in one case where the heading has been supplied editorially (m. 310).

There are no ornaments marked in the original source. I have added some editorial shakes (marked [tr]) in obvious places. I have made no attempt to suggest divisions or other embellishments, which are best left to the judgement and ability of the performer.

Repeats and Endings

Playford uses a simple double bar (\parallel) both as a marker of the end of a section and as a repeat sign. Repeats that involve partial measures are marked with a *segno* (:S:). Occasionally first and second ending structures are marked by superposition thus:



In other places, a first and second ending apparatus is required, but not provided for. All first-second ending structures in the present edition are essentially editorial. The cases of original superposition are indicated by the words 'First' and 'Second' placed below the thorough bass line. Where *segni* occur, they have been retained in addition to modern repeat signs.

It is unclear whether the double bars within the opening Symphony are intended as repeat signs or merely as section dividers. It is my opinion that repeats are not desirable, but I have marked possible repeats above the top staff for those who wish to use them.

Errors and altered readings

The following were noted in the source:

- m. 17: Time signatures unclear
- m. 62: Ten. 'Appetite' has two sets of pitches. Perhaps intended as an *ossia* rendering.
- m. 67: Fermata only in Sop.
- m. 101: Th. B. Note 5 written G. Corrected to B by an early hand.
- m. 160: Sop. 1. Time signature C3. Others C3.

- m. 236: Ten. line has C2 instead of C4 clef. Music is notated as in C4. Probably an inversion of type.
- m. 285: Time signatures are unclear.
- m. 361: B has dotted minim. Other voices have minim followed by crotchet rest.
- m. 386: Vln. 1. Line ends with an unnecessary *custos* indicating an e" in the next measure.
- m. 386: Vln. 2. Second note printed as f#.
- mm. 389–91: The final note of each vocal line is marked with a fermata. These serve merely as a *signum finalitatis* and have no metrical significance.

David Millard May 2012

References

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