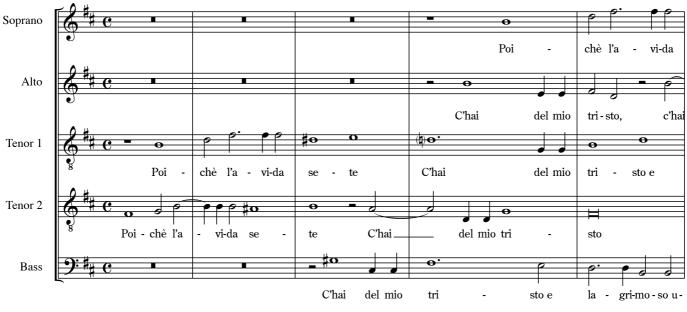
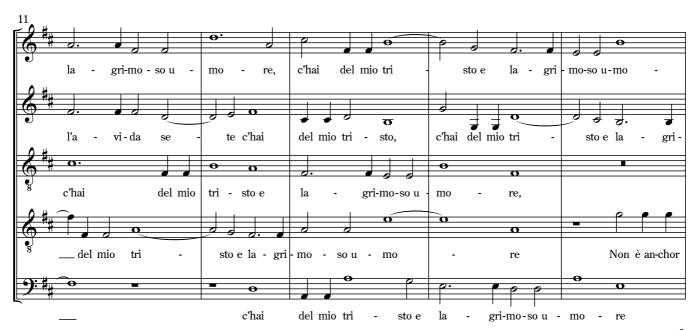
17. Poichè l'avida sete from the fifth book of madrigals











Since the keen thirst that you feel for my sad, tearful humour¹ is not yet slaked, merciless lady, let it be sated with my blood which will issue forth from my pierced chest in a melancholy stream.

do-lo - ro

Translation by Mick Swithinbank

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¹ This is presumably a reference both to the poet's mood and to the fluids the four 'humours' - assumed under ancient physiological theories to exist within the human body and to affect temperament.