

Concise History of Western Music 5th edition

Barbara Russano Hanning

WESTERN MUSIC

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FIFTH EDITION



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Chapter

11

Vocal Music for Chamber and Church in the Early Baroque



Prelude

- Religious differences: Protestant northern Europe, Catholic south
 - reflected in seventeenth-century music
 - new genres emerge: sacred vocal concerto and oratorio
 - expanded genres in instrumental music
 - early seventeenth-century music truly experimental
 - common language created by midcentury



Vocal Chamber Music

- Secular works in concertato medium
 - solo voice, small vocal ensemble with basso continuo
 - madrigals, arias, dialogues, and duets
 - opera innovations popularized through solo song
 - strophic arias, variety of treatments
 - melody repeated, rhythmic modifications
 - strophic variations:
 - new melody or same bass line
 - same harmonic and melodic plan, vary surface details
 - also favorite techniques for instrumental compositions



F11-01

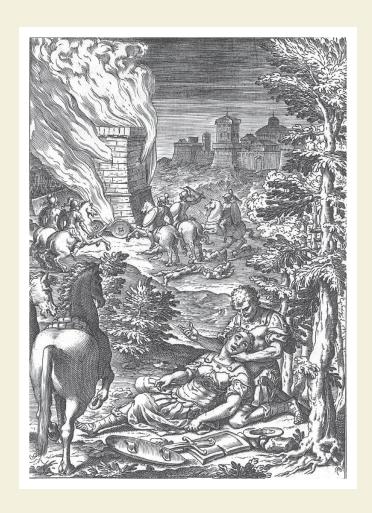




- Secular works in concertato medium (cont'd)
 - Monteverdi's concerted madrigals, last four books
 - instrumental accompaniment, basso continuo, some with other instruments
 - solos, duets, trios set off against vocal ensemble
 - instrumental introductions, ritornellos
 - Concerto (1619), Book 7
 - strophic variations, canzonettas, through-composed madrigals
 - Madrigali guerrieri et amorosi (Madrigals of Love and War, 1638), Book 8
 - madrigals for five voices with continuo
 - solos, duets, trios with continuo
 - large works for chorus, soloists, and orchestra



F11-02





- Secular works in concertato medium (cont'd)
 - Combattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda (The Combat of Tancredi and Clorinda)
 - short work blending music and mime
 - text from Tasso's epic Gerusalemme liberata (Jerusalem Delivered)
 - most is narrative; tenor recitative
 - tenor and soprano mime action to short speeches
 - instrumental interludes suggest action
 - concitato genere ("excited style")
 - rapid reiteration on a single note



- Basso ostinato, or ground bass
 - repeated bass pattern, melody above changes
 - most in triple or compound meter, two, four or eight measures long
 - tradition in Spain and Italy, popular songs and dances
 - Guárdame las vascas (NAWM 68b)
 - romanesca
 - Ruggiero: epic poetry sung, repeating melodic formulas with standard harmonization
 - descending tetrachord ostinatos: sorrowful affections



Cantata

- new genre of vocal chamber music, seventeenth century
- developed from strophic aria and dramatic madrigal
- voice and continuo
 - intimate poetic text
 - several sections, recitatives, arias, ariosos
- leading composers: Luigi Rossi, Giacomo Carissimi, Barbara Strozzi



- Cantata (cont'd)
 - Barbara Strozzi (1619–1677)
 - born in Venice, daughter of poet, librettist Giulio Strozzi
 - student of Pier Francesco Cavalli
 - supported by her father, noble patrons, publications
 - among most prolific composers of vocal chamber music of the century
 - major works 1644 to 1664: published eight collections of vocal music



F11-03





Ex11-01





- Cantata (cont'd)
 - Lagrime mie (NAWM 77), Strozzi (1659)
 - successive sections: recitative, arioso, aria
 - focus on unrequited love
 - changing figurations capture moods, images of text
- Airs de cour (court air)
 - most important secular vocal music genre in France
 - homophonic, strophic song
 - fourt to five voices or solo voice with lute accompaniment
 - syllabic; simple, diatonic elegantly arching melodies



Catholic Sacred Music

- Catholic composers adopted theatrical idioms
 - sacred concertos incorporated basso continuo, concertato medium, monody, operatic styles
 - church's message conveyed: dramatically effective
 - *stile antico*: Palestrina's contrapuntal style
 - coexisted with stile moderno
 - modernized: basso continuo added, major-minor tonality
 - codified, Johann Joseph Fux treatise: Gradus ad Parnassum (Steps to Parnassus, 1725)
 - influential textbook next two centuries



- Large-scale sacred concerto
 - polychoral music of Giovanni Gabrieli, Sant Mark's in Venice
 - performance forces grew to grand proportions (*grand concerto*)
 - two or more choirs, vocal soloists, instrumental ensembles
 - separated spatially: groups answered each other antiphonally
 - major feast days in wealthier churches



- Gabrieli's polychoral motets, St. Mark's in Venice
 - two or more choirs, vocal soloists, instrumental ensembles, one or more organs playing continuo
 - *In ecclesiis* (In churches; NAWM 78), published 1615
 - four soloists, 4-part chorus, 6-part instrumental ensemble, organs
 - modern arias, instrumental canzonas; Renaissance imitative polyphony
 - massive sonorous climax



- Small sacred concerto
 - one or more soloists, organ continuo
 - written for small churches
 - Lodovico Viadana (1560–1627), Cento concerti ecclesiastici (One Hundred Church Concertos, 1602)
 - performance during Mass, replaced older-style motet during Offertory or Communion
 - Monteverdi's Vespers, 1610
 - small and grand concerto combined
 - all varieties of solo, choral, and instrumental groupings
 - traditional psalm tones and new musical resources

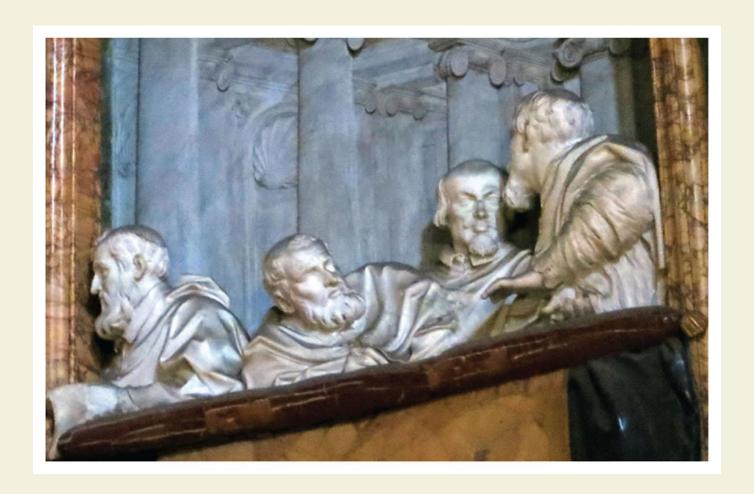


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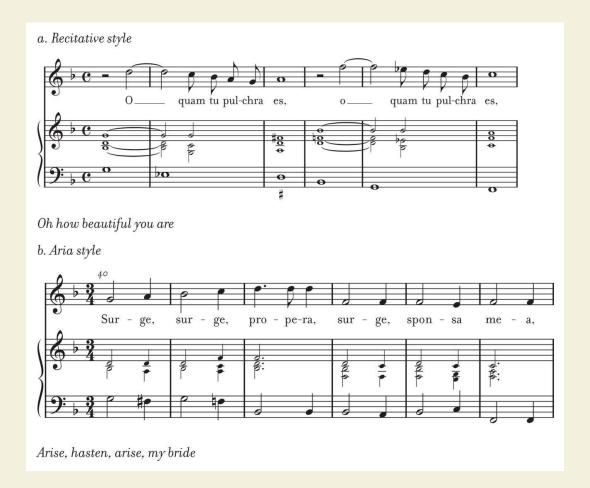
- Small sacred concerto (cont'd)
 - Alessandro Grandi (1586–1630), Monteverdi's deputy
 - solo motets in new styles of monody
 - O quam tu pulchra es (NAWM 79), published 1625
 - elements from recitative, solo madrigal, lyric aria
 - changing styles reflect moods of the text

Oratorio

- dramatic sacred dialogue: elements of narrative, dialogue, commentary
 - performed in the oratory
 - genre developed in Rome



Ex11-02





- Oratorio (cont'd)
 - recitatives, arias, duets, instrumental preludes and ritornellos
 - religious subject matter
 - seldom if ever staged
 - action described rather than mimed
 - often a narrator, *storicus* ("storyteller") or *testo* ("text")
 - various roles of the chorus
 - Giacomo Carissimi: leading composer of Latin oratorios
 - Jephte (ca. 1648), exemplifies midcentury Latin oratorio



Oratorio (cont'd)

- libretto: biblical text, paraphrasing and added material
- various styles: narrator in recitative, solo arias, duets, choruses
- final scene (NAWM 80)



Lutheran Church Music

- Sacred music in Austria and Catholic southern Germany, strong Italian influence
 - Italian composers active in Munich, Salzburg, Prague, Vienna
 - stile moderno, using chorale tunes
 - polyphonic chorale motets, motets on biblical texts without chorale melodies
- Henrich Schütz (1585–1672)
 - master at applying new Italian styles to church music
 - 1609: studied in Venice with Giovanni Gabrieli



F11-06



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- Henrich Schütz (1585–1672) (cont'd)
 - 1615–1672: chapel master at Saxon court in Dresden
 - renowned for capturing meanings of text
 - seldom used chorale melodies; texts from Bible, other sources
 - 1627: wrote first German opera
 - major works: Psalmen Davids, Cantiones sacrae, Symphoniae sacrae, Musikalische Exequin, Passions
 - early sacred works, series of collections
 - Psalmen Davids (Psalms of David, 1619)
 - sensitive treatment of German texts, magnificent large-scale
 Venetian concerto
 - two or more choruses, soloists, instruments



- Henrich Schütz (1585–1672) (cont'd)
 - Symphoniae sacrae (Sacred Symphonies, 1629)
 - concerted Latin motets: various small combinations of voices and instruments
 - combines recitative, aria, concerted madrigal styles
 - *Kleine geistliche Konzerte* (Small Sacred Concertos, 1636 and 1639)
 - Thirty Years' War, reduced court chapel
 - one to five solo voices without continuo
 - Symphoniae sacrae II and III, 1647 and 1650
 - sacred concertos in German
 - after Thirty Years' War, full musical resources



- Henrich Schütz (1585–1672) (cont'd)
 - Saul, was verfolgst du mich (NAWM 81), large-scale concerto
 - two choirs doubled by instruments, six solo voices, two violins and continuo
 - polychoral style of Gabrieli, dissonance of Monteverdi
 - historia: musical setting on biblical narrative
 - The Seven Last Words of Christ (1650s?); Christmas History (1644)
 - Passions, most common type of historia
 - story of Jesus' crucifixion
 - older German tradition: narrative in plainsong; others in polyphonic motet style



TIMELINE

1601–1602 Caccini, Le nuove musiche 1607 Monteverdi, Orfeo (NAWM 74), in Mantua 1613 Monteverdi appointed maestro di cappella at Saint Mark's, Venice 1615 Gabrieli, Sacrae sympho-	1625 Grandi, O quam tu pulchra es (NAWM 79) 1629 Schütz, Symphoniae sacrae I 1636 Schütz, Kleine geistliche Konzerte 1638 Monteverdi, Madrigali	1642 Monteverdi, L'incoronazione di Poppea (NAWM 75), in Venice 1650 Schütz, Symphoniae sacrae III (NAWM 81); Carissimi, Jephte (NAWM 80) 1659 Strozzi, Lagrime mie
niae II 1600 1590 Guarini, Il pastor fido 1609 Kepler sets forth his astronomical laws 1618–1648 Thirty Years' War (religious wars in Germany)	1632 Galileo charged with heresy for claiming Earth revolves around the sun 1635–40 Poussin, The Rape of the Sabine Women (Figure III. 7); Rubens, The Rape of the Sabine Women (Figure III. 8)	1650 1645–1652 Bernini, The Ecstasy of Saint Teresa (Figure 11.4)



- Henrich Schütz (1585–1672) (cont'd)
 - Schütz's legacy
 - music revived in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
 - synthesis of German and Italian elements
 - laid foundation for later German composers



Postlude

- Early seventeenth century: drew deeply on sixteenth-century traditions
 - redefined existing genres, combined with new styles and technique
 - monody and madrigal in church music
 - form: organization of bass and harmonies
 - use of ritornellos, ostinato patterns, variation techniques
 - basso-continuo texture varied by contrasts in concertato medium

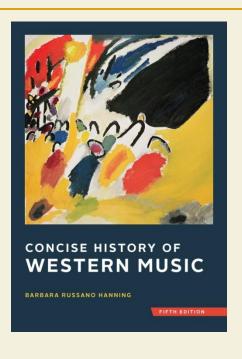


Postlude (cont'd)

- Early seventeenth century: drew deeply on sixteenth-century traditions (cont'd)
 - new genres and techniques set pattern for several generations
 - oratorio, sacred vocal concerto, cantata
 - different styles appropriate for different purposes



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This concludes the Lecture Slide Set for Chapter 11

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