

Aurelio VIRGILIANO

(around 1600)

Ricercar 7 from Il Dolcimelo

Transcribed in modern notation for Viola

Notes for Ricercar 7
(page 32 of manuscript)

Title and Style:

- Ricercar 7 is indicated “in Battaglia”, i.e. “in Battle”. An imitation of what we can reconstruct of military sounds of the 16th century may include morning calls, gunshots, marching army, cannon, echoes, etc. It seems that all of this and more is included in Virgiliano’s score.

- Time signature:

Measures (bars) are not delimited in the manuscript, whereas in other pieces they are totally or partly delimited by dots under the staff. However, in this piece the indicated time signature 6/4 is essentially followed throughout. For easier reading by modern players, bars were made visible. They may, or not, indicate where to place accents, which should rather be deduced from the flow of the melody. The same applies to the binding (grouping) of quaver stems: Virgiliano almost always groups together a series of quavers or semiquavers, independently of their number. It was chosen in most places to group them by 4 in order to improve legibility. However, the musical motives are not always in synchrony with the groupings, which should be taken into account when interpreting the piece.

- Other:

- Bar 43: undotted half-note in manuscript.

per Flauto, Cornetto, Violino,
Traversa e simili in Battaglia

Il Dolcimelo

Ricercar 7

Aurelio Virgiliano (1540-1600)

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