



“Alma del core”

from *La costanza in amor vince l'inganno*

Antonio Caldara
antonjo kaldara

Poetic idea

“I shall always love you faithfully, being happy as long as I can kiss you.” The singer is Clizia, declaring her love for Tirsi, who immediately returns her promise to be faithful.

Background

Please read the notes about “*Sebben crudele*,” which comes earlier in the same opera.

Source

Same as for “*Sebben crudele*”. From Act I, scene 20. For voice (soprano clef) and continuo. (There is a 16-measure introduction for four-part strings; only the first two measures of it are included in this edition.) Original key: A major with two sharps.

Following “*Alma del core*,” the aria is repeated in a D-major version by Tirsi. The first four measures of the voice part are omitted so that the aria begins with the continuo playing at m7. Tirsi, whose part is in alto clef, sings the following text:

*Dolce mia vita, cor del mio seno,
Sempre quest'alma t'adorerà.
Al tuo splendore questo mio core
Clizia fedele s'aggrerà.*

The printed libretto of the Roman performance in 1711 does not contain “*Alma del core*”.

The familiar version of the aria was edited by Ludwig Landshoff in *Alte Meister des Bel Canto* (Leipzig: Peters, 1914). A responsible editor, Landshoff described his sources in detail, but the publisher has dropped that information from recent printings.

alma del kore
Alma del core,
Soul of[-the] (my) heart,

spirto del:lalma
Spirito dell'alma,
spirit of[-the] (my) soul,

sempre kostante tadorerò
Sempre costante t'adorerò!
always constant, you-I-will-adore.

sarò kontento
Sarò contento
I-shall-be happy

nel mio tormento
Nel mio tormento
in[-the] my torment

se kwel bel lab:bro batfar potrò
Se quel bel labbro baciare potrò.
if that beautiful lip to-kiss I-will-be-able.