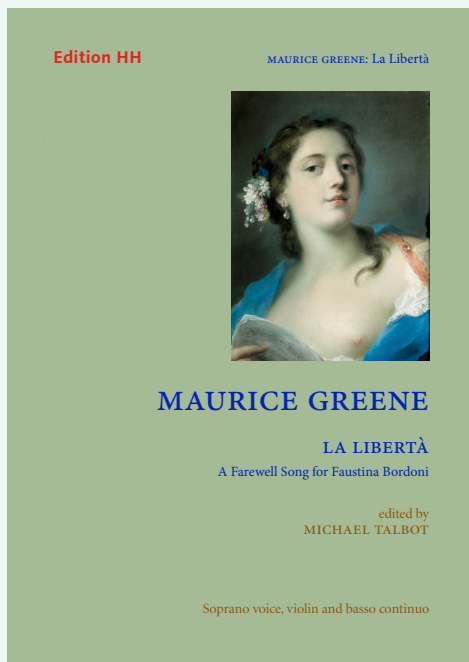


MAURICE GREENE

LA LIBERTÀ, for soprano, violin & basso continuo

edited by Michael Talbot



La Libertà is the most original, and among the most attractive, of Maurice Greene's secular vocal compositions on Italian texts. Strong circumstantial evidence indicates that he wrote it as a composition for the celebrated operatic singer Faustina Bordoni to sing as a grateful farewell to her English patrons and admirers just before her final departure from London in the summer of 1728. The song commemorates not only Faustina but also her constant companion and reputed lover, the violinist Mauro d'Alay, who is likely to have been the original player of the obbligato violin part with which the vocal part interweaves. Greene took the text from an Italian translation of *A Letter from Italy*, a famous poem by Joseph Addison extolling liberty, which was at the time seen as a distinguishing characteristic of England.

Maurice Greene (1696–1755)

La Libertà

edited by Michael Talbot

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ix/7 + 3 × 4 pages

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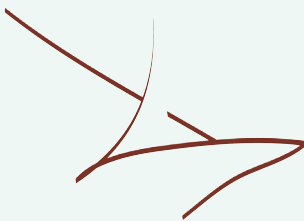
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MAURICE GREENE

LA LIBERTÀ
edited by Michael Talbot

LA LIBERTÀ
A Farewell Song for Faustina Bordoni

MAURICE GREENE
(1696–1755)

SOPRANO

VIOLIN

BASSO CONTINUO

Adagio e piano Vivace

[Violino]

[Soprano]

O Li - ber - tà, o Li - ber - tà, o De - a ce - le - ste,

[Basso continuo]

5

Dea ce - le - ste e bel - la, o Li - ber - tà! Di ben - pro - fu - sa e

4 6
2

9

pre - gna di di - let - to! Pia -

6

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The Consort

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