Marc-Antoine Charpentier was unusual amongst his French contemporaries in setting a significant number of Italian texts. Among the most substantial of these settings are a pair of so-called *pastoralette*, ‘Amor vince ogni cosa’ and ‘Cupido dent’al mio cuor’.

‘Amor vince ogni cosa’ is a cantata-like work in which the actions of two shepherds, Linco and Silvio, overcome the misfortunes of two shepherdesses, Filli and Eurilla, who are subsequently urged by Pan to love their heroes in return. Thus, ‘true love conquers all’. Scored for five solo voices, two treble instruments and continuo, this work may also be performed by larger forces if desired. It nicely illustrates Charpentier’s integration of innovative Italian features into an essentially French musical style.

Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643–1704)
Amor vince ogni cosa, Pastoraletta Ia, h492, for five voices, two treble instruments and basso continuo
edited by Shirley Thompson
xvi/40 pages
HH323.FSC
(Performance material available from the publisher)

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