

An aural analysis of bel canto:

Traditions and interpretations

as preserved through selected sound recordings

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

Master of Music

Elder Conservatorium of Music
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
The University of Adelaide

May 2010

6 APPENDICES

6.1 APPENDIX A: Inventory of definitions of terms used in bel canto

Cabaletta - simple operatic aria, with incisive and continuous repeated rhythm.

Cavatina - a term used in opera for the short aria occurring after the recitative, less elaborate in structure than *da capo* aria.

Coloratura - decoration of a vocal melody, extemporary or otherwise, in the shape of runs, roulades and cadenzas.

Da capo - is a repeat of the first section of the aria, such as ABA.

Ex tempore - means the passage is made up by the singer at the time, rather like an improvisation on an instrument.

Legato - smoothly. The art of binding notes together without any perceptible interruption between notes.

Melisma (*pl. Melismata*) - means much the same as *coloratura*. Its purpose is to beautify and embellish the melodic line, and has components of trill, staccato, ornaments, and *scala volante*.

Messa di voce - the placing of the voice. The term is used to indicate crescendo and diminuendo on a long note in singing, and also the deepening and adding of colour of the quality of the voice.

Mezza voce - a moderate volume of tone.

Passaggi - a generic term for improvised ornaments, usually more than scale passages.

Portamento - indicated by slur marks connecting two notes of different pitch and characterized by passing from one note to another by sliding rapidly over the intermediate notes.

Resonance - the way the voice produces a resonating sound, creating vibrations or reverberations.

Scala volante - a scale passage or roulade, flying, fast and light.

Tessitura – the general texture, or pitch range, of a vocal part.

Vibrato - giving expressive quality to a note by rapid and minute vibrations of pitch above and below the pitch.

Voce mista – mixed voice

Voce finta - pharyngeal 'false' or feint voice. (not falsetto).

Voce de petto - the natural or chest voice, the lowest register of the voice

Vocal timbre - the quality of tone in the voice, all varieties of timbre can be produced.²⁰³

²⁰³ Definitions derived from *Concise Dictionary of Music*. Great Britain: Collins, 1986 third edition.

Enrico Stinchelli. *Greatest Stars of the Opera*. Rome: Gremese, 2002.

6.2 APPENDIX B: Score. 'Casta Diva' from *Norma*. Novello and Co, Ewer and Co, 1927

NOVELLO'S ORIGINAL OCTAVO EDITION.

N O R M A

AN OPERA

IN TWO ACTS

BY

VINCENZO BELLINI.

EDITED, AND TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH, BY
NATALIA MACFARREN.

(PRICE 1  6S AND SIXPENCE.)

LONDON: NOVELLO AND COMPANY, LIMITED.
NEW YORK: THE H. W. GRAY CO., SOLE AGENTS FOR THE U.S.A.
MADE IN ENGLAND

bring ye, See heav'n . . . now o - pens her por - tals.
 ti - mo... Eil sa - - - cro vi - schio io mie - to.

ff

(She gathers the mistletoe, which priestesses receive in wicker baskets. Norma comes forward, raising her arms to heaven. The moon shines out in full splendour. All kneel.)

Andante sostenuto assai.
p

Fl.
assai espressivo.

Ob.

Lente.
pp, tutte legato.

NORMA.
 Mo - na hear us, shed up - on us . . . thy sil - ver
 Ca - sta Di - va, ca - sta Di - va, che i - nar.

ra - - - - - diance, Mo - - - - - na hear . . . us, at . . thy
 - gen - - - - - ti, Que - - - - - ste sa - - - - - cre, que - ste

al - tar, at thy al - tar see us ben - ding, Oh, a -
 sa - cre, que - ste sa - cre an - ti - che pian - te. A noi

vert . . thou the ill . . im - - pen - ding, Oh, . . . a -
 vol - - gi il bel sem - - bian - - te, A . . . noi

vert thou, oh, a - vert the ill im - - pen -
 vol - gi, a noi vol - gi il bel sem - - bian

sempre cresc. sino al . . .

ding, the ill . . im - - pen - ding, Spread a - round thy heav'n - ly
 - te, il bel . . sem - - bian - te Sen - za nu - be e sen - za

dimin.

smorz.

Bellini's "Norma."—Novello, Ewer and Co.'s Octavo Edition.

light,
vel,
OROVESO.

Mo - - - - na, hear
Ca - - - - sta Di

TREBLES. *sotto voce.*

Mo - na, hear us, Mo - na, hear us, at . . thy al - tar see us
Ca - sta Di - va, che i - nar - gen - ti que - ste sa - cre an - ti - che

TENORS.

Mo - na, hear us, Mo - na, hear us, at . . thy al - tar see us
Ca - sta Di - va, che i - nar - gen - ti que - ste sa - cre an - ti - che

BASSES.

Mo - - - - na, hear
Ca - - - - sta Di

dolce espressivo.

heav'n
sen - - - - - ly

us
- va, a - - - - vert from
a noi deh

ben - ding, Oh . . a - vert the ill . . im - pen - ding, Spread a - round thy heav'n - ly
pian - te, a . . noi vol - gi il bel . . sem - bian - te sen - - za nu - be e sen - za

ben - ding, Oh . . a - vert the ill . . im - pen - ding, Spread a - round thy heav'n - ly
pian - te, a . . noi vol - gi il bel . . sem - bian - te sen - - za nu - be e sen - za

us,
- va, a - - - - vert from
a noi deh

Bellini's "Norma."—Novello, Ewer and Co.'s Octavo Edition.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system includes a vocal line with lyrics, a piano accompaniment, and a grand staff. The lyrics are in Italian and English. The first system's lyrics are: "light, us the ill im Yes, sî", "vol gi il bel sem", "light, Mo - na hear . . us, Mo - na hear . . us, At . . . thy al - tar see . . us", "vel. Ca - sta Di - va, che i - nar - gen - ti que - ste sa - cre an - ti - che", "light, Mo - na hear . . us, Mo - na hear . . us, At . . . thy al - tar see . . us", "vel. Ca - sta Di - va, che i - nar - gen - ti que - ste sa - cre an - ti - che". The second system's lyrics are: "heav'n ly", "sen za", "- pen ding. Send thy", "- bian te sen za", "ben - ding, Oh . . a - vert . . the ill . . im - pen - ding, Spread a - round . . thy heav'n - ly", "pian - te, a . . . noi vol - gi il bel . . sem - bian - te sen - za nu - be e sen - za", "ben - ding, Oh . . a - vert . . the ill . . im - pen - ding, Spread a - round . . thy heav'n - ly", "pian - te, a . . . noi vol - gi il bel . . sem - bian - te sen - za nu - be e sen - za".

Bellini's "Norma."—Novello, Ewer and Co.'s Octavo Edition.

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system features vocal staves for Soprano and Tenor, and piano accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal and piano parts. The third system includes a vocal staff and piano accompaniment. The score includes various performance instructions such as 'light. vel.', 'pp', and 'cl. Ob. Cor.'.

light. vel. Mo - - - na, oh
Tem - - - pra, o

light. vel. Oh e send thy *light. vel.*
vel. e sen - za *vel.*

light. vel. Oh e send thy *light. vel.*
vel. e sen - za *vel.*

light. vel. Oh e send thy *light. vel.*
vel. e sen - za *vel.*

light. vel. Oh e send thy *light. vel.*
vel. e sen - za *vel.*

cl. Ob. Cor.
pp

hear . . . us, hear . . . us pray for . . . thy gen - tle gui - - dance,
Di - va, tem - pra tu de' . . . co - ri ar - den - - ti,

Mo - - - na, oh hear . . . us, These . . im - patient, these impatient hearts re -
tem - pra, an - co - - ra, tem - pra an - co - ra, tem - pra ancor loze - lo au -

Bellini's "Norma."—Novello, Ewer and Co.'s Octavo Edition.

- press thou, With thy qui - et thy children bless thou, With thy
 - da - ce, spar - gi in ter - ra ah quel - la pa - ce, spar - gi in

With thy qui - et
 Di va, spar - gi in

CHORUS.

With thy qui - et
 Di va, spar - gi in

With thy qui - et
 Di va, spar - gi in

With thy qui - et
 Di va, spar - gi in

qui - et, with thy qui - et, oh bless
 ter - ra, spar - gi in ter - ra quella pa

sempre cresc. al

bless us, Let thy peace shine,
 ter - ra ra quel - la pa - ce

bless us, Let thy peace shine,
 ter - ra ra quel - la pa - ce

bless us, Let thy peace shine,
 ter - ra ra quel - la pa - ce

bless us, Let thy peace shine,
 ter - ra ra quel - la pa - ce

f sempre cresc. al

Bellini's "Norma."—Novello, Ewer and Co.'s Octavo Edition.

us, Let thy peace, oh let thy peace shine on our
 ce che re gnar, re - gnar tu fai, tu fai nel

oh let thy peace shine on our
 che re - thy - gnar tu fai nel

oh let thy peace shine on our
 che re - thy - gnar tu fai nel

oh let thy peace shine on our
 che re - thy - gnar tu fai nel

oh let thy peace shine on our
 che re - thy - gnar tu fai nel

smorz.

night, oh shine on our
 ciel tu fa i nel

night, oh shine thou on our
 ciel tu fa - - i nel

night, oh shine thou on our
 ciel tu fa - - i nel

night, oh shine thou on our
 ciel tu fa - - i nel

night, oh shine thou on our
 ciel tu fa - - i nel

a piacere.

Bellini's "Norma."—Novello, Ewer and Co.'s Octavo Edition.

Allegro.

night.
ciel.

night.
ciel.

night.
ciel.

night.
ciel.

night.
ciel.

Allegro. *Tutti.*

f Trombe.

NORMA.

The rite is en-ded, now all disperse ye, Till to
Fi - ne al - ri - to e il sa - cro bo - sco. Sia dis -

ff *Allegro assai. p e marcato.*

ven - geance I . . . re - call . . . ye. When the war - god sounds the
- gom - bro . . . dai . . . pro - fa - . . . ni. Quan-do il Nu - me, quan-do il

ff