

Aurelio VIRGILIANO

(around 1600)

Ricercata 6 from Il Dolcimelo

Transcribed in modern notation for Recorder in C

Notes for Ricercata 6

(page 31 of manuscript)

- *Title and instrumentation:*

Virgiliano indicates that the piece is intended for “Traversa, Violino, Cornetto, et altri instrumenti”. He does not specifically mention the “Flauto”, i.e. the recorder, as he does in other pieces. Indeed, although the range of the piece is only two octaves (from D3 to D5 in the original), it is not well adapted to the recorder, notably because it would predominate in the high register of the instrument, and/or have an awkward key signature.

- *Arrangement:*

An arrangement for recorder in C is proposed. This is possible because, in the original Virgiliano score, the two lowest notes of the piece are only played once: as the last note of bar 32 and as the first note of bar 33.

In the arrangement, the original piece (lowest note D3) was transposed up by only a fifth, and bars 32 and 33 were adapted accordingly.

The resulting arrangement spans an octave and a sixth, from C4 to A5, with a plain key signature (no alteration). The original notes have been left in place in Bars 32 and 33 for reference.

- *Style:*

The second half of Ricercata 6 gives a war-like atmosphere and would deserve the qualification “in battaglia”. However, it is only in the following Ricercata 7 that Virgiliano fully explores this “battle” style.

- *Alterations:*

Cadential alterations should be considered in bars 12, 27, 77, 136 and 142. Some players may wish to add more alterations in other places.

Ricerca per Traversa, Violino,
cornetto et altri instrumenti

Il Dolcimelo

Ricerca 6

Aurelio Virgiliano (1540-1600)

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70



109

112

115

118

121

124

127

130

133

136

139

142

This musical score consists of ten staves of music, each labeled with a measure number at the beginning. The notation is in treble clef. Measures 109 through 141 contain various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. Measure 142 concludes with a half note followed by a whole note, which is marked with a fermata.