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AN ANALYSIS OF THE SECONDA PRATTICA IN
CLAUDIO MONTEVERDI'S MADRIGALS

A Thesis
Presented for the
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Eileen Lovett Weber

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For Fred, Rick and Mike

ABSTRACT

Many theorists and musicologists have concerned themselves with studies of Claudio Monteverdi's life and works. Most of them, however, have neglected to examine through musical analysis his use of the Seconda Prattica in the early madrigals.

In this study selected madrigals from Monteverdi's first five books of madrigals were analyzed for the elements of form, harmony, melody, prosody, rhythm and texture. The analysis revealed that Monteverdi's compositional style, although it did undergo an evolutionary process, reflected the Seconda Prattica in even his early madrigals.

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Eileen Weber

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Statement of the Problem

Claudio Monteverdi's first book of secular madrigals was published in 1587. The second and third books followed shortly thereafter, appearing in 1590 and 1592 respectively. The fact that his fourth madrigal book was not published until eleven years later, in 1603, suggests that it took Monteverdi some time to integrate various new elements in his style.¹

The fifth book, published in 1605, is considered by musicologists and theorists to represent a critical turning point in Monteverdi's stylistic evolution. In The Italian Madrigal Alfred Einstein wrote:

. . . with the fifth [book] he takes a step towards a break with the past which is and remains a break, no matter how carefully it has been prepared by his own efforts and those of a number of his contemporaries.²

And Hans Redlich stated:

With the Fifth Book of Madrigals the Monteverdian madrigal enters the Early Baroque world of form: cantata, chamber-duet and monody. In the short but cogent preface, the antinomy in the historical style between the 'Prima' and the 'Seconda Prattica' is announced for the first time.³

¹Denis Arnold, "Monteverdi, Claudio," The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, Stanley Sadie, ed., vol. 12 (London: MacMillan Publishers Ltd., 1980), 519.

²Alfred Einstein, The Italian Madrigal translated by Alexander H. Krappe, et al., Vol. 2 (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1949), 717.

³Hans F. Redlich, Claudio Monteverdi: Life and Works translated by Kathleen Dole (London: Oxford University Press, 1952), 76.

However, Denis Arnold wrote that "Monteverdi's music progresses so naturally that any division is artificial."⁴ He also wrote that Monteverdi's free use of dissonance was, in fact, in keeping with a tradition that had already been firmly established in 1600 and practiced by intellectuals of the day.⁵ Arnold's statements lead to the premise of this study: that Monteverdi incorporated elements of the Seconda Prattica into even his early madrigals.

Methods Used and Literature Survey

In an effort to determine the extent to which the Seconda Prattica was used by Monteverdi in his early madrigals, selections from his first five books were analyzed. From Book I, three madrigals based on a tripartite text by Antonio Allegretti were examined as individual madrigals, then as a whole. They were: "Fumia la pastorella" (prima parte); "Almo divino raggio" (seconda parte); and "All' hora i pastor tutti" (terza parte).

One selection from each of the other early Books (II-V) was analyzed: "Ecco mormorar l'onde" (Book II), "O come è gran martire" (Book III), "Sfoga con le stelle" (Book IV) and "Cruda Amarilli" (Book V). An attempt was made to choose for analysis madrigals which were representative of each book in textual content and compositional style. The selected madrigals, each composed for five voices, were analyzed for their formal, harmonic, melodic, prosodic, rhythmic, and textural

⁴Denis Arnold, Monteverdi second edition (London: J. M. Dent and Sons, Ltd., 1975), 72.

⁵Denis Arnold, "Seconda Prattica: A Background to Monteverdi's Madrigals," Music and Letters, XXXVIII (1957), 351.

characteristics.

The life and works of Claudio Monteverdi have long been subjects of study by theorists and musicologists. In 1600 Monteverdi's contemporary, G. M. Artusi, published the first part of a controversial treatise in which he attacked four of Monteverdi's madrigals. Artusi accused the madrigalist of being "revolutionary" in his use of harmonic innovation. The Artusi-Monteverdi conflict was an on-going affair, and neither party is known to have conceded to the other.⁶

Denis Arnold, in "Seconda Prattica: A Background to Monteverdi's Madrigals," discussed the problem between Artusi and Monteverdi. His article also outlines the characteristics of the Seconda Prattica and defends Monteverdi's practices.⁷

Arnold, Leo Schrade⁸ and Hans F. Redlich⁹ each completed a biography of Monteverdi. While Schrade's biography contains detailed descriptions of Monteverdi's life and music and Redlich's is written "for the German reader with a knowledge of Heinrich Schutz and Samuel Scheidt . . .," Arnold's Monteverdi is a "study which will introduce Monteverdi and his background to readers with a limited knowledge of Italian music at the time."¹⁰

⁶Hans F. Redlich, Claudio Monteverdi: Life and Works.

⁷Denis Arnold, "Seconda Prattica: A Background . . ."

⁸Leo Schrade, Monteverdi: Creator of Modern Music (New York: W. W. Norton and Co. Inc., 1950).

⁹Hans F. Redlich, Claudio Monteverdi: Life and Works.

¹⁰Denis Arnold, Monteverdi, v.

Many other scholars have contributed to the wealth of information on Monteverdi, among them G. Francesco Malipiero,¹¹ Jerome Roche,¹² Denis Stevens,¹³ and Gary Tomlinson.¹⁴ Each has contributed information about Monteverdi's life or has interpreted some aspect of his music.

One study, however, is particularly related to the present one. In his dissertation, Kenneth Robert Mays presented harmonic analyses of Monteverdi's madrigals. He suggested that an evolution of Monteverdi's style took place, a transition from Renaissance to Baroque.¹⁵ This present study indicates that Monteverdi's style, although it did undergo an evolutionary process, reflected the *Seconda Prattica* in even his early madrigals.

Materials for the Harmonic Analysis

G. Francesco Malipiero's edition of Monteverdi's Tutte le Opera (Vienna: Universal Edition, 1926) was used, as was a more modern edition of Book I by Bernard Bailly de Surcy (New York: Les Editions Renaissantes, 1972). English translations of the texts proved helpful

¹¹G. Francesco Malipiero, "Claudio Monteverdi of Cremona," The Musical Quarterly XVIII, 1932, pp. 383-396.

¹²Jerome Roche, "Monteverdi - An interesting Example of Second Thoughts," Music Review XXXII, 1971, p. 193.

¹³Denis Stevens, Monteverdi: Sacred, Secular, and Occasional Music (London: Associated University presses, 1978).

¹⁴Gary Tomlinson, Monteverdi and the End of the Renaissance (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987).

¹⁵Kenneth R. Mays, Harmonic Style in the Madrigals of Claudio Monteverdi (Doctoral dissertation, Indiana University, 1971).

in examining the prosody of the madrigals and have been included in the Appendix. Various recordings of the madrigals were also used.

CHAPTER II

THE SECONDA PRATTICA

The term "Seconda Prattica" was first used by Monteverdi in response to the attack in 1600 on some of his madrigals. These madrigals had not yet been published, but there is

. . . evidence that many of the madrigals were completed and circulated among musicians before they were printed. Among those who saw them was Giovanni Maria Artusi, one of the most bigoted spokesmen for the contrapuntal style. The first work of the fifth book, "Cruda Amarilli," was especially irritating to him, and he attacked Monteverdi in his notorious treatise, L'Artusi ovvero delle imperfettioni della moderna musica, of 1600.¹⁶

Artusi accused Monteverdi of being "revolutionary" and claimed the major offense to be the madrigalist's free use of dissonance. Guidelines for composition in the sixteenth century allowed for only certain uses of dissonances, set forth by Gioseffo Zarlino in his Institutioni harmoniche (1558). Intervals of seconds and sevenths were used rarely, but augmented fourths, diminished fifths and perfect fourths were treated more liberally. Dissonances could be used, according to Zarlino, in these ways: "on strong beats through the prepared suspension; on weak beats, and occasionally on strong beats, as passing notes; as modified passing notes called 'cambiata'; or as other forms of auxiliary notes."¹⁷

¹⁶Leo Schrade, Monteverdi: Creator . . ., 201.

¹⁷Claude V. Palisca, Baroque Music, 2nd ed. (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1981), 9.

Most of the liberties Monteverdi took in the criticized madrigals occurred on weak beats. He was also faulted for writing some vocal ornamentation which normally would have been improvised.

In his preface to Book V, he addresses Artusi's accusations:

Attentive readers:

Do not wonder that I am having these madrigals printed without first replying to the attacks which Artusi has made on certain brief passages in them; for being in the service of His Serene Highness of Mantua I have not had the time at my disposal which would be needed to do so. Nevertheless I have written a reply to let it be known that I do not compose haphazardly, and as soon as it is transcribed it will be published, bearing the title Seconda Prattica or Perfettione della Moderna Musica. This will surprise some who do not believe that there is any method other than that taught by Zarlino; but they may be assured that, with regard to consonances and dissonances, there is another consideration also, different from that usually accepted, which while satisfying the reason and the senses defends the modern method of composition. I have wished to say this, so that this term Seconda Prattica may not be used by others and so that the ingenious may consider other secondary matters concerning music, and believe that the modern composer builds upon the foundations of truth. Farewell.¹⁸

This treatise was never published, but Monteverdi did put forth an outline for the book, dividing it into three parts: the treatment of words, harmony and rhythm. His brother Giulio Cesare expounded on the unpublished treatise, explaining that Claudio "aimed to make the text the mistress of the harmony rather than the reverse, as was true in much earlier music."¹⁹

Monteverdi's position was supported by composers connected with Ferrara, who were also intellectuals and theorists. They advocated

¹⁸Denis Arnold, Monteverdi, 14.

¹⁹Claude V. Palisca, Baroque Music, 11.

three principles, explained by Denis Arnold in his article: (1) that the words be audible (a practice which dates back as early as the 1560's in some of Wert's madrigals); (2) that the rhythm be dictated by the manner in which the words would be spoken (making dotted rhythms common); and (3) that the meaning of the texts be reflected in the music (such as the use of dissonance to relate "harsh" ideas).²⁰

The Seconda Prattica, then, was the style of composition which followed these guidelines. The text was of utmost importance, and only harmonies and rhythms which would enhance the text were used.

In addition to new treatments of dissonances, several other changes in compositional techniques represented the departure from the Prima Prattica. One such change was in the texture of music: the continuous, flowing polyphony of the Prima Prattica gave way to a much more controlled type of polyphony, as well as to the increased use of homophony. Polyphony which had once been derived from the individual melodic lines of the voices became a product of two contrasting melodies, each of which was performed by a group of voices. Also, points of imitation of melodic lines or motives were placed in such a manner that the lines of text were not blurred.

Another change in compositional practice occurred in the structure of music. Musical works written in accordance with the Seconda Prattica were determined not by the external forms of the texts used (rhyme schemes, numbers of syllables per line, number of lines per verse, etc.), but by the meaning of the texts. If a thought was not completed at the end of a line of text, the music did not come to a cadence in

²⁰Denis Arnold, "Seconda Prattica: A Background . . . ", 344.

keeping with the rhyme, but instead continued without a break. Also, different tone colors, textures, rhythms, meters or other elements corresponded to syntactic sections in the texts and led to a breakdown of stylistic unity.

The change from modality to tonality, the increased importance of the uppermost voice and the harmonic foundation provided by the lowest one, the growing frequency of root movements by fifth, the recognition of the relationship between a minor key and its relative major and the use of cadences which were based on dominant-to-tonic progressions were all indicators of the Seconda Prattica as well. Discovering the extent to which Monteverdi incorporated these and the previously mentioned elements was the purpose of this study.

CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

"Fumia la pastorella" (prima parte); "Almo divino raggio" (seconda parte); and "All'ora i pastor tutti" (terza parte) - Book I

Monteverdi chose for these madrigals a three-part text by Antonio Allegretti. The cycle depicts a pastoral scene in which the shepherdess Fumia sings a May song. While the first and third madrigals are narrative, describing shepherds and nymphs and children singing and dancing, the middle one is Fumia's song itself. These compositions appear in Monteverdi's first book as Madrigals IX, X and XI and will be referred to as such in this analysis.

Madrigal IX ("Fumia la pastorella") serves as an introduction to the cycle. Its length of twenty-three measures makes it the shortest of the three -- half the length of Madrigal XI and just over half the length of Madrigal X. The introductory nature of Madrigal IX is further strengthened by its final close, a half cadence leading directly into the following madrigal.

While G minor is the prevailing tonality in Madrigal IX, emphases on the mediant (B^b major), the minor dominant (D) and the major tonic occur also. The mediant, emphasized frequently by Monteverdi in his first three books,²¹ seems to dominate the tonal scheme: the opening phrase (measures 1-3) is clearly in B^b, as are measures 6-9 (including an imperfect authentic cadence) and the penultimate measure. This

²¹Kenneth R. Mays, Harmonic Style in the Madrigals of Claudio Monteverdi (Doctoral dissertation, Indiana University, 1971), 123.

creates some confusion concerning the madrigal's tonal identity. However, the composition's first cadence, at the end of measure 5, and one at measure 19 (both imperfect authentic cadences on G), along with the continued use of F* as a leading tone, establish G as the tonic. The G major tonality heard at these cadences also appears in measure 11. Monteverdi's use of the major and minor tonic is in keeping with the compositional practice of his day. Monteverdi also uses major and minor dominant sonorities: D major chords occur throughout the madrigal except in measures 13-15, where the minor dominant is tonicized with an imperfect authentic cadence on D.

The internal cadences mentioned delineate the five phrases of Madrigal IX. In accordance with his *Seconda Prattica*, Monteverdi does not allow the form of Allegretti's text to dictate the structure of his music. Each of the three parts of the cycle is based on a rhyme scheme of a b c a' b' c' d d', but the composer gives primary importance to the meaning of the words rather than the rhyme. The first two lines have a different texture from their corresponding lines (4 and 5), not only because lines 1 and 2 are homophonic while lines 4 and 5 are polyphonic, but also due to the absence of the bass until measure 10. The third line is presented in triple meter by the four upper voices, and its corresponding line (6) is delivered in common time by the three upper voices and the bass. The last two rhyming lines are presented in one five-measure phrase, separated only by the number of voices presenting them. The through-composed structure created by Monteverdi has an almost symmetric scheme:

[5 + 4] + 6 + [3 + 5]

homophonic

polyphonic

homophonic

(Text: ab c a'b' c' dd')

The first five-measure phrase consists of two measures in which the upper three voices sing and three measures in which the tenor joins the upper voices. The texture in this initial phrase and in the following four measures is homophonic.

In measures 3-5, on the words "weaving a garland," some imitation, voice crossing and melodic ornamentation occur, suggesting a polyphonic style; but the steady eighth-note rhythm (a continuation of measures 1 and 2), along with the tenor's functioning as a bass while the soprano maintains the melodic lead, creates an aural impression of homophony. This illustrates Monteverdi's ability to enhance the text without reverting to the continuous flowing polyphony of the *Prima Prattica*, and supports his position that the words be understood.

la, Tes-sen-do ghiz-lan-det-ta, P.T. - E. - ta,
 la, Tes-sen-do Tes-sen-do ghiz-lan-det-ta,
 la, Tes-sen-do ghiz-lan-det-ta, ghiz-lan-det-ta,
 Tes-sen-do ghiz-lan-det-ta, ghiz-lan-det-ta,

The two dissonances in Madrigal IX, a passing tone and an *échappée*, occur in the ornamented melody of measure 5. The text in measures 6-9, "went about singing in a meadow of flowers," is heightened by a change to declamatory homophony in triple meter, which suggests singing or dancing.

The middle phrase of the madrigal, measures 10-15, contains the first appearance of all five voices. The bass joins the four upper voices in a polyphonic section which very appropriately relates the text "All around her playing on the grass." To the steady eighth notes are added eighth and quarter rests and pairs of sixteenth notes. These, with the playful imitation and crossing of voices, present a lively backdrop for the text. For the final statement of "on the grass" Monteverdi uses only the upper three voices and returns to the homophonic texture which is heard for the remainder of the madrigal.

10

In- tor- no in- tor- no a quel- la Scher- za- van per l'her- bet- ta, Scher-

In- tor- no in- tor- no a quel- la per l'her- bet- ta,

tor- no in- tor- no a quel- la Scher- za- van per l'her- bet- ta, per l'her-

In- tor- no in- tor- no a quel- la Scher- za- van per l'her- bet- ta, Scher- za- van,

tor- no in- tor- no a quel- la Scher- za- van Scher-

The three-measure phrase found in measures 16-18 recalls the steady eighth-note pattern which was heard in the beginning of the madrigal, and the bass re-enters. Then, in measures 19 and 20, the bass rests while the tenor joins the upper voices. All five voices render a declamatory "spoke these words:" in measures 21-23, and the final half cadence prepares the listener for Fumia's words which will be heard in Madrigal X.

Although the two dissonances found in Madrigal IX occur on weak beats, only the passing tone is in keeping with the *Prima Prattica*;

échappées are considered to be an element of the Seconda Prattica.²² The methods used by Monteverdi to highlight words or phrases of the text are conventional, but the structure in which he places that text is not. Several other things point to the Seconda Prattica. These include the predominantly homophonic texture, which spans nearly three-quarters of the madrigal, and the cadence formulas, which reflect a departure from the II-I, leading tone and plagal cadences of the Prima Prattica.

Monteverdi supplies the anticipated resolution of the dominant (last chord of Madrigal IX) by beginning Madrigal X ("Almo divino raggio") on a G minor chord. That chord does not function as the tonic, however, but descends through two fifths (G - C - F) to the tonic, D minor. The madrigal soon moves away from D minor, but does return to that key at the close of the composition. Beginning at the end of measure 8 and extending through measure 27, the tonic is G minor. A brief emphasis on its mediant (B^b major) is heard in measures 16-18. After D minor is restored as the tonic in measure 28, another emphasis on G minor occurs (measures 35-37), but the final cadence is an imperfect authentic one on D major.

With the exception of one half cadence in D minor (measure 31), all other internal closes are imperfect authentic cadences. These occur on D minor (measures 7 and 34), G minor (measures 14, 21 and 37), G major (measures 16, 24 and 27) and B^b major (measure 18). The strong cadences divide the forty-one measures of Madrigal X into the following scheme (also based on the meaning, rather than the form, of the text):

²²Claude V. Palisca, Baroque Music, 10.

6 + 8 + 6 + 6 + (5 + 10)

homophonic polyphonic homophonic polyphonic homophonic

(Text: a bc a'b' c' d d')

All five voices utter Fumia's first words, "Divine, life-giving ray," in a solemn, homophonic phrase. The first word, "Almo" (life-giving), is sung on half notes, followed by a syncopated rhythm determined by the word "divino". The sopranos and tenor then give way to a short melisma of eighth notes while the alto and bass sustain whole notes on the word "raggio". This melisma gives rise to two dissonances: a passing tone delivered by both sopranos as their voices cross in measure 5 and a cadential 7-6 suspension in the second soprano in measure 6.



The polyphony in the eight-measure phrase which follows is typical of that used in the sixteenth century. Two separate lines of the text are sung at once, overlapping and losing clarity in the process. The alto and bass start in measure 7 (second half of beat one) with "By your holy light," but the tenor's entrance on the second half of beat two in the same measure is on "This happy season is lit and gilded." At the end of measure 8, the first soprano imitates the bass at the octave, while the second soprano enters in measure 9 imitating the tenor at the octave. The alto, having completed the first phrase, now sings the second phrase with the second soprano. The imitation and crossing of

voices (and phrases) continues to the middle of measure 14. On the second half of beat two all five voices repeat the end of the second phrase and homophony is restored. Two 4-3 suspensions, one in measure 8 in the tenor and the other in measure 10 in the second soprano, are the only dissonances heard in this phrase, which ends emphatically on G major.

The next phrase, two and a half measures in the mediant (B^b major), is presented by the four upper voices. This voicing continues through the next short phrase. In measure 19 the rhythm, which has consisted of mostly eighth notes since measure 5, quickens with the inclusion of sixteenth notes. The second soprano, alto and tenor each have lightly ornamented lines in measure 20 on the word "guide," which include thirty-second notes as well. This text-enhancing ornamentation yields four passing tones, one lower neighboring tone and a cadential 4-3 suspension.



Monteverdi gives intensity to the next phrase of text also. Polyphony returns in measure 21 (second half of beat one), where the alto and tenor each begin descending lines on "from heaven to earth" and are joined by the first soprano (imitating the tenor at the octave) on the second half of beat two. The soprano and alto have ornamented melodies on "your graceful flora" which recur as all five voices repeat the phrase in measures 24-26. The second soprano and bass have parallel descending lines (at the interval of a tenth) on "from heaven to earth"

while the first soprano and tenor have contrasting motion. The alto joins with the ornamented "your graceful flora." Dissonances in this passage include four passing tones, a lower neighboring tone and a 4-3 suspension at each cadence.

A slow, deliberate, homophonic phrase of quarter notes aptly represents "Pray, that that which oppresses us." The abrupt change from G major to G minor which occurs in measure 27 is intensified by the chromaticism which follows in measure 28 when the G minor chord moves to E major. The chromaticism does occur in the inner voices and is modulatory in nature since the E major chord functions as the secondary dominant of D minor, returning as the tonic. Yet that chromaticism certainly creates tension which is fitting to the text.



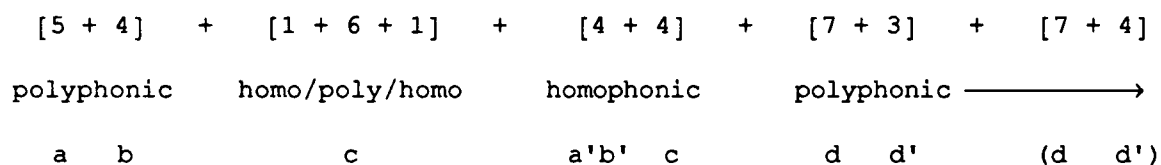
Monteverdi makes three homophonic statements of the final phrase, "Change into gladness, into joy!" using all five voices in an accelerated tempo in triple meter (proportio sesquialtera). This portion of the madrigal is reminiscent of the triple meter in Madrigal IX (measures 6-9). The use of triple time for "gioia" is conventional. The first statement cadences on D minor; the second is a sequence of the first and cadences on the subdominant (G minor). The third and final statement is identical to the first except that the two sopranos exchange parts and the cadence on the tonic major is syncopated, creating a feeling of a return to the slower, common time on the final "gioia."

As in Madrigal IX, Monteverdi employs the *Seconda Prattica* subtly, with his emphasis on meaning and the use of homophonic passages and non-conventional cadence formulas. Dissonances are more frequent than in the previous madrigal, but they are in keeping with the rules of Zarlino.

Madrigal XI ("All' hora i pastor tutti") differs from the first two madrigals of the cycle in several ways. One such difference lies in Monteverdi's use of a polyphonic texture at the beginning and end. Another is in the madrigal's high tessituras for the sopranos and tenor. Although the ranges for the sopranos are consistent with those of the previous madrigals, the frequency of high pitches is much greater; and the tenor's range is higher. One more difference of note is the lengthy repetition in Madrigal XI of its final phrase. Monteverdi presented three statements of Fumia's last words in Madrigal X, but they were quite brief. In Madrigal XI, he gives a ten-measure, polyphonic setting to the text's last phrase, then repeats it verbatim.

With the exception of one half cadence in G minor (measure 11), the cadences in Madrigal XI are imperfect authentic and occur on either D minor, G minor or G major. The madrigal begins in D minor but the first cadence in measure five emphasizes its subdominant, G minor. This is a passing cadence however, and the first phrase actually ends with a full cadence in D minor in measure 9. A modulation to G minor occurs at measure 10, with the next full cadence on G major (measure 17). An emphasis on the mediant (B^b major) occurs in measures 18-20, but the next cadence (measure 22) is back in G. An immediate return of D minor as the tonic takes place on the second half of beat one in measure 22.

Its mediant (F major) is briefly emphasized in measures 23-25. The final phrase remains in D minor until its last three measures (33-35), where G minor is restored with the cadence on G major. As has been mentioned, this ten-measure phrase is then repeated. The madrigal's phrases can be diagrammed thus:



The tenor begins this madrigal on the second half of beat one (measure 1) and is joined by the other four voices on the second half of beat two. Although the texture is polyphonic, the tenor leads by only one beat for five measures, and there is no blurring of the text. On the last half of the second beat in measure 5, however, a more conventional style of polyphony begins. The sopranos, in thirds, begin ascending lines, with the second soprano higher than the first soprano. On the second half of beat two in measure 6, the alto and tenor imitate this ascending line, the alto starting a sixth below the second soprano and the tenor singing a third below that. The bass imitates this line an octave below the alto, beginning on the second half of beat two in measure 7. All five voices cadence together in measure 9.

The hemiola in the first four measures creates a feeling of triple meter. The rhythm in this passage is based on eighth notes, grouped in threes, with dotted rhythms (dictated by the text) on the words "tutti del." The effect is blurred, however, by the tenor's one beat lead. In measure 5 common time is restored.

Al- l'ho- mi pas- tor tut- ti del Te- bo

Al- l'ho- mi pas- tor tut- ti del

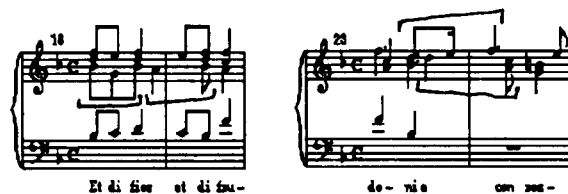
Al- l'ho- mi pas- tor tut- ti del Te- - -

Al- l'ho- mi pas- tor tut- ti del Te- bo, tut- ti del

Al- l'ho- mi pas- tor tut- ti del Te- - -

The second phrase of Madrigal XI, which extends from measure 10 through measure 17 contains two measures of homophony followed by five of polyphony, then one more measure in a homophonic texture. In measure 10 the first soprano, alto and tenor sing the phrase "ran toward the music" in a quickened rhythm of eighth and sixteenth notes. This pattern is continued as the soprano, alto and bass sing "joyous and swift" in measure 11 and as all five voices sing these phrases polyphonically in measures 12-16. In measure 17 Monteverdi recalls the homophonic texture which will continue through the next eight-measure phrase.

Only the four upper voices sing in measures 18-23. The rhythm is simplified, consisting of steady eighth notes and occasional quarter notes. Monteverdi creates interest in this ordinary passage by using hemiola in measures 18 and 19 (alto), and in measures 23 and 24 (alto and second soprano). The tenor has an ascending melody in measures 20 and 21 on the words "che porta Primavera" (literally, "which are carried by Spring").



In measures 24-26 the sopranos and alto sing "with rough and high voices." In measure 24 a B^b major chord moves to F major, then to E minor. In the first two of those chords, the first soprano has an f², which is held over as a 7-6 suspension with the E minor chord. This dissonance, along with the slight chromaticism between the pitches b^{b1} and b¹ (alto in the B^b major chord and second soprano in the E minor chord), aptly depicts the word "rough." Likewise, the leap in the first soprano from d² to a² (measure 25) suggests "high."



A problem exists concerning the delineation of the next phrase. The bass begins "they sang again and again" on the second half of beat two in measure 25, overlapping the previous phrase not yet completed by the upper three voices. The tenor begins the last phrase on the second half of beat one in measure 26, and the alto and first soprano begin on the second half of beat two in that same measure. The second soprano makes her entrance on the second half of beat one in measure 27, and all five voices continue in polyphony to the end of the madrigal. Ascending and descending sets of sixteenth notes are heard in the four upper voices, while the bass sings a strictly functional line on the tonic and dominant. Upon the return of G minor as the tonic in the last three

measures (on the words "the praises of Fumia"), the bass's melodic interest increases with the increased harmonic rhythm.

The final cadence on G major completes the tonal scheme for the cycle:

Madrigal IX

g - d - g

Madrigal X

d - g - d

Madrigal XI

d - g - d - g - d - g

Frequent emphases on the mediant of G minor, and one emphasis on the mediant of D minor also occurred.

The increased amount of polyphony in Madrigal XI (as compared to Madrigals IX and X), particularly the florid passage written to express the last phrase of text, gives rise to many passing tones. These dissonances and the others in the cycle which have been mentioned, occur on weak beats or are properly prepared, according to the rules set forth by Zarlino. Monteverdi's so-called free use of dissonance is found only in the *échappée* of Madrigal IX. In addition, his techniques for enhancing or intensifying the text are, for the most part, conventional. The chromatic passages (measure 28 of Madrigal X and measures 24-26 of Madrigal XI) are seen as exceptions.

The aspects of the cycle which lean away from the *Prima Prattica* and toward the *Seconda Prattica*, then, are more subtle. The manner in which the musical phrases follow the meaning of the text is one such example. Monteverdi's extremely controlled polyphony which allows the text to be understood, along with his increased use of homophony, also demonstrate his position that the words are of utmost importance. Other forward-looking traits include his cadence formulas: in spite of the presence of modes and the use of both major and minor sonorities for

tonics and dominants, the internal and final closes are based on dominant-to-tonic progressions. Strong root movement by fifths (usually by the bass, but also by the tenor or alto if only upper voices are singing), along with the importance of the soprano lines, indicate a move away from the flowing polyphony of the *Prima Prattica*, in which the voices had more equality.

Although most of the madrigals in Book I were written as single compositions, Monteverdi did include one cycle in addition to the one analyzed for this study. These cycles can be viewed as predecessors to the Baroque cantata. Finally, the frequent emphases on the mediant in this cycle and throughout the first three books of madrigals is indicative of Monteverdi's looking ahead to the relationship between a minor key and its relative major.

"Ecco mormorar l'onde" - Book II

Monteverdi selected works by the noted Italian poet Torquato Tasso for over half the twenty-one madrigals in his second book of madrigals. "Ecco mormorar l'onde" is probably the best known such work. This lovely poem is a sort of landscape painting,²³ describing nature at dawn. The composer creates different tone colors to depict the phrases of text by using a variety of voice combinations.

Monteverdi's madrigal presents a strong contrast to those in the "Fumia" cycle (Book I). F major is clearly the tonic throughout the entire composition and every cadence is on the tonic. With the exception of two plagal cadences (measures 47 and 71), the closes are

²³Hans F. Redlich, Claudio Monteverdi . . ., 67.

all authentic. Occasional appearances of the subtonic (measures 9, 19, 53, 58 and 76) suggest the mixolydian mode. However, the harmony consists primarily of dominant, sub-dominant and tonic chords. The supertonic, mediant and submediant occur also, but to a lesser degree.

Monteverdi's musical phrases are dictated by the meaning of Tasso's text; when a thought is not completed at the end of a line, that end is elided. In this aspect, "Ecco mormorar l'onde" is consistent with the "Fumia" cycle. The following demonstrates the relationship between Monteverdi's phrases and Tasso's text (parentheses in the text line indicate repeated material):

[12 + 14 + 13] + [7 + 8 + 12] + [5 + 13 + 8]
 aa'b (aa'b) b'cc' dd' (d')ee' (ee')f f' g g'

The first line of poetry, "Now the waves murmur," is introduced by the tenor, whose first pitch (c) is repeated without ornamentation on every syllable except the penultimate one. There he moves up to d, only to return to c for the last syllable. The undulating rhythm and this very static melody represent the murmuring waves well; but when the alto and bass imitate the tenor (beginning at measure 3), on a and F respectively (completing the tonic chord), the effect is quite stunning.

1

Ecco mormorar l'onde I tremolar le

The tenor continues what could be regarded as his solo, presenting new motives to represent "and the boughs tremble" and "in the

morning breeze" while the other voices provide accompanimental chords. The alto and bass accompany the tenor in measures 3-6, then the sopranos enter in measure 7 on descending lines of half notes a third apart. The first soprano descends from c^2 to f^1 and the second soprano moves from a^1 down to f^1 before crossing above the first soprano. The second soprano then makes the descent from c^2 to f^1 , but on a quickened rhythmic pattern. Both sopranos' arrivals at the tonic are ornamented at the first close of the composition, a perfect authentic cadence at measure 12.

The musical score shows three staves. The top staff is for the first soprano, the middle for the second soprano, and the bottom for the alto and bass. The music begins in measure 7 with a half note on C4 for all three parts. In measure 8, the first soprano moves down to B3, the second soprano to A3, and the alto/bass to G3. In measure 9, the first soprano moves down to A3, the second soprano to G3, and the alto/bass to F3. In measure 10, the first soprano moves down to G3, the second soprano to F3, and the alto/bass to E3. In measure 11, the first soprano moves down to F3, the second soprano to E3, and the alto/bass to D3. In measure 12, the first soprano moves down to E3, the second soprano to D3, and the alto/bass to C3, ending on a half note. The lyrics are: 'A l'au - - - na mat - tu - ti - na e gl'arbor - sel - li'.

The alto and bass re-enter on the tonic chord of that cadence, repeating their statement of "Now the waves murmur." In measure 14 the sopranos echo this motive. All five voices are heard together for the first time in measure 16: the sopranos deliver the "boughs" motive in thirds; the alto and tenor reiterate the "waves" motive; and the bass continues the "boughs" motive he began in the previous measure. The sopranos finish their duet halfway through measure 17, and the lower three voices continue their counterpoint to the imperfect authentic cadence in measure 20.

From beat 4 of measure 20 through beat 3 of measure 26, the five voices sing again the "morning breeze" line of text. The first soprano has the melody in this phrase, with the lower four voices providing

accompaniment. A perfect authentic cadence in measure 26, which uses the tonic six-four/dominant/tonic formula, completes this introductory portion of the madrigal.

Monteverdi uses the upper three voices in the next 13-measure phrase, with a brief appearance by the tenor. In measure 26 (beat four) the first soprano begins the line "And on the green branches the pleasant birds sing softly." This melody begins with an outline of the tonic chord, ascending from f^1 to c^2 . The second soprano imitates this at an interval of two beats, crossing above the first soprano in measure 29. On the word "sing" the sopranos have a duet of descending melismas a third apart, and the first soprano reclaims the higher position on the word "sweetly" in measure 32. The alto has been providing a functional line of half notes during this phrase. It begins on f , leaps up to f^1 for two measures, then goes back down to b^b for two measures. This b^b provides a subdominant pedal under the sopranos' descending duet on "sing."

27 30

E se- vaiver-di na- miivagh'au- gal- li can- tar- se- a- ve- men-

E se- vaiver-di na- miivagh'au- gal- li can- tar- se- a- ve- men-

E se- vaiver-di na- miivagh'au- gal- li

The second soprano begins an ascending line for the text "And the East smiles" on beat two of measure 33. The first soprano imitates this at an interval of four beats, and the sopranos continue their counterpoint to the cadence in measure 39. The alto has continued the functional role on tonic and dominant pitches, but the tenor assumes

this part in measure 36. At that point the alto presents the sopranos' melody in retrograde, yielding contrasting motion between the alto and the second soprano. The imperfect authentic cadence in measure 39 brings to a close the first syntactic and musical section of the madrigal.

In the middle section of the composition (measures 40-66) Monteverdi incorporates a different style of motive development. Rather than the imitative type which was used in the first section, he now chooses a responsorial style.²⁴ The first soprano, alto and bass introduce homophonically the text "Now dawn already appears," beginning in measure 40, and the second soprano and tenor repeat this idea, beginning in measure 41. The alto and bass repeat it once more in measure 42 before the sopranos begin "and mirrors herself in the sea" in measure 43. Monteverdi continues this format in measures 45-49, using two voices to deliver two repetitions of the "mirror" phrase (first the tenor and bass, then the first soprano and alto).

The musical score is for five voices: Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. It shows measures 40 to 49. The lyrics are: "E - co già l'al-b'ap-pa - re E sì spec -" and "E - co già l'al-b'ap-pa - re E sì spec -". The music is in a homophonic style with a responsorial structure. The Soprano 1 and Alto parts begin in measure 40, and the Soprano 2 and Tenor parts repeat the phrase in measure 41. The Alto and Bass parts repeat the phrase in measure 42. The Soprano 1 and Alto parts begin the "mirror" phrase in measure 43. The Tenor and Bass parts repeat the phrase in measure 45. The Soprano 1 and Alto parts repeat the phrase in measure 47. The Soprano 2 and Tenor parts repeat the phrase in measure 49.

²⁴Hans F. Redlich, Claudio Monteverdi . . . , 68.

Meanwhile, the next line of poetry, "And makes the sky serene," is introduced by the first soprano in measure 45. The alto, bass, tenor and second soprano (in that order) individually repeat this phrase, with each repetition occurring at a progressively faster interval. The composer weaves these single lines of text in with the responsorial double lines (described above), creating an increasingly thicker texture to suggest the dawn's transition into morning. The phrase "And impearls the fields" is treated in the same manner as the previous line: the second soprano introduces it in measure 49 and it is repeated in turn by the tenor, bass, alto and first soprano. However, the texture has evolved into a more conventional style of polyphony and an imperfect authentic cadence at measure 55 brings to an end the five-voice texture.

The three upper voices are heard from the second half of measure 55 to the end of measure 58, where the bass enters. Beginning in measure 57, the soprano introduces "And gilds the high mountains" on a melody of half notes which ascends from a^1 to d^2 then descends back to a^1 , outlining the shape of the mountains. When the bass imitates the text in measure 58, his melody also outlines the contour of mountains, but in a different way: it starts with a descent of quarter notes from f to d to B^b (outlining the subdominant chord), leaps back up to f then down an octave to F , from which it returns by step (on eighth notes) to f once more before coming to rest on c . The second soprano begins a repetition of the first soprano's motive in measure 60, while first the alto, then the tenor, repeat the bass line. The polyphony continues with all five voices to the imperfect authentic cadence at measure 66. This marks the end of the second section of the composition.

58
E gl'al - ti men - tin - do za
(ge-) - - - - la E gl'al - ti
- la il del - co gie - la E gl'al - ti men - tin - do
E
E gl'al - ti men - tin - do - - - za

The second soprano, alto and bass sing "O beautiful and gracious Aurora" together, with the alto moving contrary to the other two voices (beginning in measure 67). In measure 68 the soprano imitates the descending line of the second soprano and bass, and the tenor imitates the line of contrary motion presented by the alto. This line of text is brought to a close after several more imitative presentations with the plagal cadence at measure 71.

The penultimate line of poetry, "The breeze is your messenger, and you the breeze's," extends from measures 72-84. The bass delivers a descending line of whole notes from b^b to F, including the subtonic harmony. The second soprano and tenor begin a four-measure duet in measure 72, singing in thirds; the first soprano and alto imitate this beginning in measure 75. These two-part melodies are reminiscent of those in the middle section of the madrigal. Monteverdi continues to use the upper four voices in different combinations of two at a time while the bass makes the descent.

Monteverdi uses a descending line of half notes to present the final phrase of the text, "Which revives each burnt-out heart." The slower rhythm suggests a calmness which is also reflected in Tasso's text. After the first soprano introduces this in the second half of

measure 84, the second soprano and bass begin in measure 85 on parallel lines at the interval of a tenth. The alto and tenor begin lines in contrary motion at the second half of measure 86, and all five voices come to the end of the composition in an imperfect authentic cadence in measure 92.

More than a hundred passing and neighboring tones occur in "Ecco mormorar l'onde." With the exception of two accented upper neighboring tones (measures 61 and 64), these occur on weak beats, in accordance with the *Prima Prattica*. Prepared suspensions, usually 4-3 suspensions at cadential points, occur frequently also. The so-called free use of dissonance is as rare in this madrigal as in the "Fumia" cycle of Book I. Although the composer creates a fitting musical setting for the text, skillfully representing the lines with appropriate motives and weaving those motives together to form an increasingly thicker texture, none of his techniques exceed the guidelines given by Zarlino. Additionally, stylistic unity, a characteristic of the *Prima Prattica*, is provided by Monteverdi's repeated use of descending melodic lines and by the constancy of F major as the tonic.

Ironically, that use of F major, with only a suggestion of the mixolydian mode, is one of the elements in this madrigal which is indicative of the *Seconda Prattica*. The technique of motive development used by Monteverdi in the responsorial section is another departure from the accepted style of writing, where an imitative type of motive development is common. Other examples are much the same as those mentioned in the analysis of the "Fumia" cycle: the controlled polyphony, along with increased homophony; the structure which enhances

the meaning rather than the form of the text; cadence formulas based on dominant-to-tonic progressions (with the inclusion of the tonic six-four in most cases); and strong root movement by fifths.

Hans Redlich, in his analysis of "Ecco mormorar l'onde," stated:

As regards historical development of form, the importance of this composition consists chiefly in its opening section -- as so often in Monteverdi's madrigals -- wherein a pronounced type of monody, fully conscious of the originality of its material, is already apparent. This opening is one of the first instances of the use of unchanging harmony. . . But the opening is even more remarkable: it is a genuine tenor solo, such as we find more often in the continuo-madrigals of the Fifth and Sixth Books, with a harmonic, echoing accompaniment by the other parts.²⁵

While elements of the Prima Prattica are still very much in evidence in this madrigal from Book II, Monteverdi is making a subtle but definite shift toward the Seconda Prattica.

"O come è gran martire" -- Book III

Giambattista Guarini, a contemporary of Monteverdi, was the court secretary and court poet at Ferrara. Monteverdi used eight of Guarini's texts in Book III, one of which is "O come è gran martire." This madrigal pays tribute to the "ladies of Ferrara," three virtuoso sopranos who performed at the court.²⁶ Unrequited love is the subject of the poem, and Monteverdi's setting is quite different from those examined in the first two books.

Although this composition was written for five voices, as were all of Monteverdi's early madrigals, only the three upper voices are heard

²⁵Hans F. Redlich, Claudio Monteverdi . . . , 67.

²⁶Alfred Einstein, The Italian Madrigal, 825-830.

for the first twenty-one measures (a quarter of the work's eighty-three measures). In that opening trio the sopranos and alto are treated equally, often crossing voices to provide different tone colors. When the tenor and bass join the upper voices in measure 22, the texture retains the trio quality, but one which is now accompanied. This trio texture continues throughout the first section, which divides the composition in half.

The first soprano introduces the first line, presenting the word "O" on e^2 , a whole note followed by a quarter rest. This is followed by a drop of a minor sixth to g^{*1} , creating a "sigh" motive which is imitated in turn by the second soprano and alto when they enter at measures 3 and 5 respectively (the first soprano, having completed the line in measure 4, repeats the motive with the alto). The e^2 and g^{*1} outline the dominant of the tonic, a minor. As each voice completes the first line of poetry, "what consuming torment," the melody moves from the g^{*1} up to the tonic pitch, a^1 , then continues up to b^1 as the dominant chord returns.



The harmonic rhythm is slow throughout the first section (measures 1-41). In addition, the use of whole notes in the first soprano in measures 3-5 (and alto in measure 5) compounds the slow feeling in the first phrase. This, along with the fact that only three voices are heard, prevents a blurring of the text, in spite of the staggered

initial entrances at two-measure intervals. Beginning in measure 5, the first soprano and alto present the same text in thirds, with the alto delivering the higher pitches. The second soprano introduces the second line of poetry, "To conceal secret passion," starting on beat 3 of measure 6. The first soprano imitates this at an interval of two measures, and the second soprano joins the alto for a second statement of the line at the beginning of measure 9. The three voices cadence together at measure 11 and begin the next phrase together.

Tonic and dominant chords dominate the first phrase, interrupted only by two submediant chords until the cadence, a perfect authentic close using the formula i_4^6-V-i and containing a 4-3 suspension over the dominant chord. With the exceptions of a half cadence at measure 16 and two imperfect authentic cadences on C major (the mediant), each close in the composition follows this i_4^6-V-i formula. The 4-3 suspension occurs at every cadence throughout the madrigal except the half cadence (measure 16) and the closes at measures 47, 54 and 58.

Monteverdi is more daring in his use of dissonance in this madrigal than in the others analyzed. A passing tone in measure 7 (second soprano, beat 3) not only occurs on a strong beat, exceeding Zarlino's guidelines, but also creates intervals of a major second and an augmented fourth with the other voices. Its effect is also increased by the fact that it occurs on a quarter note in a relatively slow tempo. In measure 9, the second soprano and alto cross and have simultaneous passing tones on g^1 and b^1 (beat 2). This creates a minor second between the alto and first soprano (on c^1). When the passing tones arrive at consonance on beat 3, the first soprano's pitch is a passing

tone. That dissonance is actually a continuation of the previous one, except the soprano and alto have crossed, so that the first soprano is now on b^1 and the alto on c^1 . The second soprano is on f^1 at this point, so the vertical sounds on beats 2 and 3 of measure 9 are: $g^1-b^1-c^1$ moving to $f^1-b^1-c^1$. The minor second lasts through two full beats of the measure. This, as well as the use of a retardation (measure 10, beat 2, second soprano) represents a definite departure from the *Prima Prattica*.

ti - - re A ce - laz suo de - si - - re quan -

-laz suo de - si - - re A ce - laz suo de - si - - re quan -

ti - - re A ce - laz suo de - si - - re quan -

The third and fourth lines, "When we love in good faith/But meet disbelief and proud scorn," are presented in a homophonic texture. The "ladies" continue their trio to the half cadence in measure 16, then begin a repetition of the lines on the last beat of that measure. The setting for the third line is the same the second time, except the sopranos are a third lower and cross voices on the last word. The fourth line is altered slightly to accommodate the perfect authentic cadence in measure 21. That cadence brings the unaccompanied trio to an end.

The phrases in measures 11-21 also contain dissonances which are freer than those in the previously analyzed madrigals. The fourth beat of measure 13 contains an anticipation in the first soprano. Then, in measure 20, the second soprano pitch on beat 2, b^1 , becomes a 2-1

suspension which, when resolved to a^1 on beat 4, is dissonant with a passing tone (also b^1) in the first soprano. When that note becomes consonant on the first beat of measure 21, the second soprano's pitch, a^1 , becomes a 4-3 suspension. These juxtaposed dissonances occur at the cadences in measures 30 and 41 also.



All five voices deliver the fifth line, "O sweet fire of my passion," homophonically in measures 22-26, and a tonicization of the mediant occurs there with an imperfect authentic cadence in C major. The tenor and bass provide accompaniment for the trio. A 4-3 suspension at the cadence is the only dissonance in this phrase. The next line, "O just and right desiring," which moves back to a minor, is presented by the sopranos and tenor in imitative style (measures 27-30), with a perfect authentic cadence (with the i_4^6 -V-i formula and juxtaposed dissonances) at measure 30.

Measures 31-34 comprise a repetition of measures 22-26, except the upper three voices exchange melodies: the second soprano presents what was the first soprano's line, the alto takes the second soprano's and the first soprano delivers the alto part. The sixth line of poetry is also repeated (measures 35-41) with minor changes: the sopranos retain their parts, but the tenor is replaced by the bass; then, the tenor and alto join the other voices in a three-measure extension of the

line, which ends at the imperfect authentic cadence. That cadence marks the end of the first section.

In the first sixteen measures of the second section, the trio texture which has dominated thus far gives way to duets. The sopranos deliver the seventh line, "Each must follow his own heart," in thirds (measures 41-43) and the bass and tenor begin the next line, "And since thou art my whole heart," in thirds in measure 43, overlapping the sopranos for two beats. In measure 44 the alto enters (a third above the tenor) while the tenor sustains the text on a whole note and the bass continues. In measure 45, the alto and tenor complete the duet and the bass provides functional whole notes.

41

S'è - gran a - mail sue co - so S'è

S'è - gran a - mail sue co - so S'è

E voi se - - - teil cor mi

E voi se - - - teil cor mi

E voi se - teil cor mi - - -

A modulation to the subdominant, D minor, occurs at the beginning of this phrase, and the imperfect authentic cadence at measure 47 is in that key. The sopranos repeat their duet (last beat of measure 46 through measure 48), then the tenor and bass echo this an octave lower (beginning on beat 2 of measure 48). The alto enters on beat 3 of measure 49, recalling the eighth line of poetry, and the sopranos imitate this in thirds at an interval of one measure. The return of A minor as the tonic occurs with the sopranos' entrance. While the alto

delivers sustained whole notes on the dominant pitch, the sopranos finish the line and the tenor and bass begin it again, overlapping the sopranos in measure 54. The sopranos, crossing voices, give a final statement of the line (beginning in measure 55), and the four outer voices come to a perfect authentic cadence at measure 58.

The harmony in this sixteen-measure passage consists of mostly dominant and tonic chords, and the only dissonances are passing tones. The duets in thirds, which alternate (but overlap) between the upper and lower voices, are reminiscent of the responsorial motive development found in "Ecco mormorar l'onde" (Book II).

The last twenty-five measures contain a five-voice, polyphonic setting of the last two lines of poetry, "I therefore needs must love thee/Till life is ended shall I ever love thee." This final passage includes another modulation to the subdominant (alternating between major and minor sonorities), aeolian and dorian modes, and a shift to the major tonic, A.

The alto introduces the first phrase of the passage, beginning on beat two of measure 58. The first pitches, e^1 moving down to c^{*1} , change the tonic, A, into the major dominant of the subdominant. When the bass imitates the alto, a fifth below and at an interval of two beats, his a moves down to f^* , giving the subdominant a major quality, which it maintains at a passing cadence on D major (measure 62). However, the minor subdominant occurs in this phrase also, with passing cadences on D minor at measures 64 and 67.

57

mi .

mi .

Al - l'hor nen fia

Al - l'hor

A: - X - I: V: X Al - l'hor nen u 6

The tenor is the third to enter, beginning two beats after the bass. The sopranos begin when the lower three voices have almost completed the penultimate line of poetry and the bass introduces the last line. The second soprano enters on beat 4 of measure 61, the same point at which the bass begins the last line. The first soprano imitates the second soprano at an interval of one measure, allowing the bass to be understood.

A descending melodic line is the setting for the last line of text. It moves by step from d^1 to d (the dorian mode) when the bass presents it. When the tenor imitates it a fifth above at a space of nine beats, the aeolian mode is indicated. The sopranos also imitate the descending line, both on the aeolian mode. The second soprano begins seven beats after the tenor, and the first soprano begins at that same distance. The alto does not imitate the last line of poetry in this phrase, repeating the previous line instead. A perfect authentic cadence at measure 70 brings to a close the twelve-measure phrase and establishes the return of the tonic. However, that tonic (A major) functions again as the dominant of the subdominant, which returns as the tonic in the final phrase.

The last phrase (thirteen measures long) is a repetition of the material presented in the previous phrase. However, the five voices enter in a different order and at different intervals of time, and the melodic lines are altered. Also, the minor subdominant does not appear in this phrase. The return of A major as the tonic occurs in measure 80 and an imperfect authentic cadence completes the madrigal.

The Prima Prattica is still very much in evidence in "O come è gran martire," but the shift toward the Seconda Prattica is stronger than in the "Fumia" cycle or "Ecco mormorar l'onde." Stylistic unity, an element of the Prima Prattica, is provided by the consistent use of the i_4^6 -V-i cadence formula and the 4-3 suspensions in those cadences. However, stylistic unity is disrupted by the changes from trio to duet to five-voices and by the changes from homophonic to responsorial to polyphonic texture.

Monteverdi's musical phrases follow the rhyme scheme of Guarini's text more in keeping with the Prima Prattica than in the previously analyzed madrigals, but that does not interfere with the meaning in this case. The Prima Prattica is also reflected by the suggestion of the dorian and aeolian modes, as well as by the interchanging major and minor sonorities; but these occur only in the last two phrases of the madrigal, and the final phrase is actually a modified repetition of the penultimate one. A negation, or shift to the Seconda Prattica, exists for each element of the Prima Prattica.

The strongest argument for the Seconda Prattica in "O come è gran martire," however, is Monteverdi's use of dissonance. Passing tones occurring on strong beats frequently, the presence of an anticipation and

a retardation and the juxtaposition of several dissonances within a few beats all represent a departure from the *Prima Prattica*. In addition, the dramatic opening "sigh" motive can be seen as a move toward the recitative style, and the emphasis of the mediant as a forerunner to the relationship between a minor key and its relative major.

"Sfogava con le stelle" - Book IV

Ottavio Rinuccini's poem "Sfogava con le stelle" was set to music by Monteverdi in the fourth book of madrigals. The subject, like that of "O come è gran martire" (Book III), is unrequited love. The first four lines of text narrate the scene of a lover expressing his grief to the stars. The remaining nine lines are the lover's prayer to the stars, in which he pleads with them to reveal to the object of his affection his ardor and to make her respond to him kindly ("pietosa").

The poet's narration is presented by the five voices in a somber homophonic declamation. For all except the last word of the first line, Monteverdi indicates only the chord (the tonic, D minor) to be sung; the singers must chant the syllables in a speech-rhythm. Melodic parts for the last word of the first line and the entire second line are written out, but maintain the solemn homophonic quality. These two lines form a five-measure phrase ending with a plagal cadence on the major tonic.

Siegava con le stel - le Uh in-faz - no d'a - me - so

Siegava con le stel - le Uh in-faz - no d'a - me - so

Siegava con le stel - le Uh in-faz - no d'a - me - so

Siegava con le stel - le Uh in-faz - no d'a - me - so

Siegava con le stel - le Uh in-faz - no d'a - me - so

Narration continues as the first two words of the third line are chanted on the minor tonic chord, and the remainder of the line is delivered on dictated parts. This five-measure phrase culminates with a perfect authentic cadence, also on the major tonic.

The last line of the narrative text begins in speech-rhythm (this time starting on the major tonic) and ends in written-out homophony in the same manner as the previous phrases. Instead of a cadence at the end of the declamation, however, Monteverdi begins the lover's first words, "O beautiful images," in contrasting polyphony. In measures 11-14, where the last line of narration is presented, the major tonic chord moves to the minor subdominant, G, which moves to the subtonic, C major. Monteverdi develops the harmonies for the polyphonic exclamation around the C major sonority, but the mixolydian mode on C is in evidence along with C major as a tonality.

The alto introduces the lover's "O" on beat 3 of measure fourteen, presenting a descending melody of quarter notes from g^1 to c^1 . The bass imitates this, beginning on c on beat one of measure fifteen. The bass continues the descent on quarter notes for four measures, with two

changes of octave creating leaps of minor sevenths in his melody. The tenor imitates the bass line at the octave at two counts.

The sopranos present the same text on a contrasting melody: the first soprano introduces a motive (on the second half of the first beat in measure 15) of ascending notes from g^1 to f^2 , and the second soprano imitates this at an interval of two beats. The alto, having introduced the melody for the two lower voices, now imitates the two higher ones, but does not complete the line, sustaining the supertonic pitch (d^1) for one and a half measures. The sopranos repeat their motive, this time rising from a^1 to g^2 . The five voices come to a perfect authentic cadence on C major in measure 20.

Measures 15-20 of a five-voice setting. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is common time (C). The score shows a perfect authentic cadence. Pedal points are marked in measures 15, 16, and 17.

Vocal line with lyrics for measures 15-20. The lyrics are "i - ma - gi - ni bel - le". The score includes markings for "ANT." and "P.T.".

This exciting polyphonic passage gives rise to many dissonances, most of which are passing tones. The sustained pitch ("pedal") presented by the alto in measures 16 and 17 is one exception, and the first soprano delivers a pedal in measures 17 and 18, partially overlapping the alto's. On beat four of measure 17, a result of these pedals is a vertical harmony of $f-a-d^1-e^2-g^2$: five consecutive pitches of the scale sound together, although the pitches are not within the same octave. In measure 19 (second beat) the second soprano and tenor anticipate the dominant chord which occurs on the third beat, while the bass simultaneously has passing tones moving to that chord. When these three voices reach consonance on beat three, the first soprano has a 4-3 suspension over the dominant. This is somewhat reminiscent of the juxtaposed dissonances which were found in "O come è gran martire," but the intensity is even greater because of the simultaneous dissonances. These dissonances, as well as the style of polyphony based on two opposing groups (rather than derived from individual melodic lines), are highly indicative of the *Seconda Prattica*.

In the next phrase (measure 21 through the first half of measure 25), D major returns as the tonic. The same words which were presented polyphonically in the previous phrase ("O beautiful images") are now delivered in the declamatory homophony, on an F major chord (the mediant of the returning tonic). The dramatic contrast between settings of the same text intensifies the words, and the homophony changes those words from an exclamation into a prayer. This declamation, too, is followed by contrasting polyphony when the next line of text, "of my idol, whom I adore," is introduced on a motive of ascending tenths by the first

soprano and bass (measure 22). The middle voices imitate this in the following measure, first the second soprano and alto in sixths, then the tenor alone, and all five voices reach a perfect authentic cadence on D major. Three dissonances occur in the first two beats of measure 24, over the dominant chord at the cadence: a 4-3 suspension, a passing tone and a neighboring tone. This cadence marks the end of the first section in the ternary composition.

For each of the next five lines in Rinuccini's poem, Monteverdi creates individual motives. Line 7, "just as you show me," is presented by the upper three voices and the bass in a simple homophonic setting (measures 26-27). Only one dissonance occurs in this short phrase, a suspension in the soprano (beat 4 of measure 26) which resolves not by step, but by a fourth. The next two lines, "while you glisten thus,/her rare beauty," are presented in a three-voice texture, with different combinations of upper voices presenting duets (usually in thirds) and one of the lower voices functioning as a continuo bass (measures 28-35).

Si co - m'a me me - sta - te

Si co - m'a me me - sta - te

Si co - m'a me me - sta - te

Si co - m'a me me - sta - te

The passage in measures 26-35 contains a modulation to G minor, but D major is restored as the tonic and the half cadence at measure 35 is on the major dominant. Monteverdi begins the next phrase on a new tonic chord, F major, an abrupt change from the A major chord preceding

it. Although both chords are closely related to the minor tonic (A as the major dominant and F as the mediant), the major tonic was heard more recently, and the juxtaposition of the tenor's $c^{\#1}$ with the first soprano's c^2 heightens the surprise.

The musical score shows five staves. The top three staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and the bottom staff (Bass) have the lyrics 'Ce - si me - ta - ta'. The fourth staff (Soprano) has the lyrics 'Ce - si me - ta - ta'. The bottom of the score indicates the key signature change from D minor to F major: 'd: ♯ F: I'.

The phrase in F major (measures 36-44) contains lines 10 and 11, "so show her/my burning ardor." Line 10 is stated homophonically by the upper three voices and the bass, then the sopranos deliver line 11 in a duet of thirds. The tenor reiterates line 10 while the sopranos sing their duet. The alto imitates the sopranos at an interval of two and a half measures, and the tenor and bass present this material in tenths. The three lower voices come to a perfect authentic cadence in F major at measure 44, marking the end of the second section.

The final section is similar to the first: the last two lines of the poem are presented in the combination of declamatory homophony followed by polyphony. The penultimate line and the first word of the last line, "with your golden semblance you might make her/ kind," are presented in the speech-rhythm format. This occurs three times, beginning in measure 45.

The first statement ends on a plagal cadence (corresponding to the opening of the madrigal) and moves immediately into the second. This middle statement is a sequence of the first, on the major subdominant (G), but after the plagal cadence (measure 50), Monteverdi elaborates on the word "pietosa" (kind), and adds the next word, "si" (yes). This five-measure elaboration includes some imitation but retains the somber homophonic quality. The phrase returns to the tonic and ends on half cadence (measure 54).

In measure 51, the first soprano has a dissonance (beat 1) which is suspended from the previous chord, but, like the suspension in measure 26, does not resolve by step. Instead it resolves down a fifth, becoming consonant with the next chord (beat 3) rather than the chord over which it was suspended. The suspension occurs on the third syllable of "pietosa," followed by the resolution on the last syllable; then the melodic line moves up a step on the word "si" (measure 52). This motive on these two words recurs in different voices throughout the next twelve and a half measures, with the dissonance always falling on the same syllable. In measure 53, this motive is in the first soprano.

The musical score displays five staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Bass. The lyrics are "Pie - to - sa si Pie - to - sa si". A vertical line is drawn through the score, connecting the "sa" syllable in measure 51 across all five voices. This line highlights a dissonance in the first soprano, which resolves down a fifth in measure 52. The score is written in a single system with measure numbers 51, 52, 53, and 54 indicated above the staves.

The third and final declamatory statement begins on F major, with the same abrupt change of harmonies (from A major to F major) as was found between measures 35 and 36. This statement does not reach a full cadence, but moves immediately into the polyphonic conclusion to the madrigal (corresponding to the third declamatory phrase in the opening section). The third statement also differs from the other two in the presentation of the "pietosa si" motive in the first soprano (before, it occurred in the elaborative phrase after a declamation).

In measure 57 the remaining text, "just as you make me lovelorn," is introduced on an ascending melody by the first soprano. This is imitated at an interval of two measures by the second soprano and alto in a duet of fourths (including an augmented fourth on beat 2 of measure 60); then the bass and tenor imitate it separately, each at intervals of two measures. The presentations of this melody are interspersed with repetitions of the "pietosa si" motive, first in C major, then in G major and finally back in the tonic (D/d). Thus, Monteverdi has moved through a circle of fifths, beginning with the declamatory homophony in F, then the polyphonic passage in G, C and D. The five voices conclude the madrigal with a perfect authentic cadence using the i_4^6 -V-I formula and a 4-3 suspension over the dominant chord.

Monteverdi has clearly written "Sfogava con le stelle" using the Seconda Prattica. Elements of the Prima Prattica are not entirely absent, notably the use of mixed tonalities and suggestions of modes. But numerous aspects of the madrigal reflect a departure from the older style of composition.

One of the more obvious is the declamation-followed-by-polyphony passages which can be seen as forerunners to the recitative-aria sections of the Baroque cantata. The polyphony itself is very different from that of the *Prima Prattica*, as Leo Schrade describes:

. . . Short as this polyphonic passage is, it has the basic characteristics of Monteverdi's new counterpoint. It originates out of only two contrasted elements: the upper part that functions as the vehicle of the melody and the lower part that affords harmonic support. In placing these two fundamental elements against each other in artistic elaboration, each takes the form of a complex group of voices related to each other as "counterpoints," whereas in the past the counterpoint had consisted of individual melodic lines. The complexities of such groups are the elements of the new polyphony.²⁷

Also obvious are the new, dramatic dissonances employed by the composer. Pedals occurring simultaneously with other non-harmonic tones result in "tone clusters." Suspensions which do not resolve in a conventional manner create new sounds. And the accumulation of dissonances in the polyphonic conclusion to the madrigal (where the "pietosa si" motive is presented with that of the last line) creates intensity which is far stronger than any found in the previously discussed madrigals.

Another indicator of the *Seconda Prattica* lies in the modulation to the subtonic of the madrigal (C major). This functions as the dominant of the mediant, F major, to which the composition also modulates, but that does not become evident immediately since the mediant emphasis is much later. That emphasis on the mediant is reminiscent of those found in the "Fumia" cycle (Book I) and in "O come è gran martire."

²⁷Leo Schrade, Monteverdi: Creator . . ., 192.

Monteverdi's awareness in the relationship between a minor tonic and its relative major is very pronounced in this madrigal.

Finally, other elements of the Seconda Prattica are similar to those found in the other madrigals analyzed: the cadence formulas which use dominant-to-tonic progressions, the functional lines of the bass (or other lower voices), the increased use of homophonic texture and motive development in combinations of trio and duet groupings.

"Cruda Amarilli" - Book V

Portions of P. F. Guarini's noted play, Il Pastor Fido, served as texts for many musicians . Monteverdi was one of these composers, and his fourth and fifth books of madrigals contain several compositions using Guarini's work. The first madrigal in Book V, "Cruda Amarilli," is a lover's lament from Scene 2. "Cruda Amarilli" is also one of the madrigals which was attacked by Artusi and, as such, is one of Monteverdi's most renowned works.

Like the other madrigals analyzed, this one is written for five a cappella voices; however, the fifth voice (quinto) falls between the tenor and bass instead of between the soprano and alto. With this choice of voices, Monteverdi creates a richer, darker sound.

"Cruda Amarilli" is in the key of C major, but Monteverdi begins and ends the madrigal on the dominant (G major). The opening four measures are in G, then the next four measures are a sequence of that material in C, which is the tonic for the next forty-six measures (over two-thirds of the sixty-seven measure composition). There is one tonicization of G in measures 23-25, but it functions as the dominant of

C at that point. At measure 52, Monteverdi begins the return of G: a tonicization of D minor (supertonic of C, minor dominant of G) occurs in measures 52 to 55, and G major is again tonicized with an imperfect authentic cadence at measure 58. One of Artusi's complaints about "Cruda Amarilli" was the manner in which Monteverdi starts and ends it in a key which actually serves as the dominant throughout most of the work.

The first line, "Cruel Amarillis," is introduced homophonically by the five voices on a rhythm of mostly whole and half notes. The first chord, G major, moves to the submediant (E minor), but the soprano sustains a d^2 from the G chord, creating a dissonance of a minor seventh on the first word, which moves to another ninth before resolving. The E minor chord is followed by the tonic chord in first inversion, over which the soprano's second dissonance, along with a passing tone in the alto occur, also on the word "cruel." The chords for the second word are tonic-six to dominant to tonic, and progress without non-harmonic tones. This phrase closes with an imperfect authentic cadence at measure 4, then the material is presented in sequence, coming to a perfect authentic cadence on C major (measure 8).

The image shows a musical score for the first line of "Cruda Amarilli" by Monteverdi. It consists of five staves, each with a different clef (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Bass). The lyrics are "Cru - da Ama - ril - li Cru". The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and accidentals. A bracket labeled "1" spans the first measure, and a bracket labeled "4-8" spans the last three measures. A bracket labeled "P.T." (Passing Tone) is placed over the second measure. The score is written in a style typical of early modern musical notation.

Line 2 of the text, as well as part of line 3, is presented in measures 9-14, ending with "ahi lasso" (alas). This, too is treated homophonically, but Monteverdi writes in ornamentation (which normally would have been improvised by the singers) for the lower three voices on "alas," producing many passing tones. Several other dissonances occur in this phrase. A chord on the submediant occurs on beat 3 of measure 10, with the soprano delivering an e^2 . Then, on beat 4, the four lower voices repeat their pitches while the soprano moves up to f^{*2} , creating a leading-tone chord of the dominant. When the quinto imitates the soprano's ascending melody an octave lower in measure 12, his f^{*1} is a passing tone which coincides with the ornamentation of the bass line. In addition, intervals of a minor second, major second and minor ninth are heard between this pitch and those of the tenor, alto and soprano respectively. Then, in measure 13, the soprano enters on beat 2 on a^2 , resulting in an unprepared major ninth which moves to a seventh over dominant harmony. This, along with the diminished chord and the extreme dissonances resulting from the imitated line and written-in ornamentation are clearly elements of the Seconda Prattica.

10

- co - za D'a - maz ahi las -

qm

P.T.s

P.T.

P.T.s

P.T.s

4-3

C: II^6 vi $\text{VII}^{\#4}$ I

The material in measures 9-14 is repeated in measures 14-19, but only in the three lower voices. Following the ornamented "alas," the trio presents the remainder of the third line, with a strikingly dissonant chain of suspensions providing tension on the word "bitter." The last chord in measure 21 (immediately preceding the chain of suspensions) is a diminished leading tone chord, the second appearance of such a sonority. The tenor, quinto and bass come to a perfect authentic cadence on G, presenting the tonicized pitch in unison (measure 25). This marks the end of the first of three sections in "Cruda Amarilli."



All five voices begin the middle section of the madrigal in measure 26. The setting for the first word of line 4, "Amarillis," is a modified diminution of the opening four measures; the smaller number of syllables and an emphasis of the supertonic make this phrase different from the opening one. The two-measure phrase is repeated with minor changes. The soprano again has suspended dissonances: a minor seventh (measure 26) and a major seventh (measure 28) which resolves by leap. Other dissonances in this phrase are two passing tones and two 4-3 suspensions which are written according to the guidelines of Zarlino. The rest of line 3 is presented in a consonant progression of chords; the only surprise in this phrase (measures 30-34) is the appearance of

The third section is a polyphonic one in which the last two lines of the poem are presented and in which G is tonicized again. The tenor and bass introduce line 8, "Lest these my words offend thee," in descending thirds. The alto imitates this after two beats and those three voices end the line together. The bass immediately begins the last line, "I needs must die, my lips sealed," on a contrasting ascending melody, and the tenor and alto repeat the previous line. The soprano imitates the tenor and alto at an interval of two beats and the quinto imitates the bass on just the first word of the last line. A perfect authentic cadence in C occurs at measure 50.

A tonicization of D minor occurs in measures 52-54, then an emphasis on G occurs for the remainder of the madrigal. The counterpoint continues as the contrasting melodies are repeated by different voices, producing many dissonances. In measure 62, the soprano has a suspended dissonance (a major seventh) on beat 4 which does not resolve. Instead, the soprano has a rest on the next beat. Not only is a major seventh considered extremely dissonant, but Monteverdi's failure to resolve this suspension is definitely not in accordance with the *Prima Prattica*. Passing tones, neighboring tones, pedals, suspensions and diminished chords all occur in the last section, which comes to an end on an imperfect authentic cadence on G major.



"Cruda Amarilli," like "Sfogava con le stelle" (Book IV), is definitely the product of Monteverdi's Seconda Prattica. The extremely harsh dissonances, especially those which are unprepared or which resolve in unorthodox manners, give this madrigal a bitter quality not heard before, and they are used to create a mood, not just to highlight isolated words of grief. In addition, the repeated appearance of diminished chords is not in keeping with the Prima Prattica. Some of the other madrigals contain isolated examples of this sonority, but they are the result of passing tones and do not function as leading-tone chords, as in "Cruda Amarilli." Dominant seventh chords which are functional and not just products of passing tones or suspensions occur also.

Other departures from the Prima Prattica are similar to those cited in the previous analyses: the increased use of homophony; cadence formulas based on dominant to tonic progressions (often including the tonic six-four); the role of the bass as a basso continuo; polyphony derived from two contrasting melodies rather than five equal melodic lines; and the increased use of tonalities rather than modalities.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS

Elements of the *Seconda Prattica* were found in each of the seven madrigals analyzed. However, Monteverdi's free use of dissonance, the aspect of the *Seconda Prattica* with which Artusi found the most fault, only occurred in the madrigals from Books I and II in a few isolated instances (two *échappées* in Book I and two accented neighboring tones in Book II). "O come è gran martire" (Book III) was the first composition analyzed which contained non-harmonic tones that were not treated according to Zarlino's guidelines. Passing tones on strong beats, an anticipation and a retardation were used by Monteverdi in this madrigal. Also, the composer frequently juxtaposed several dissonances within a few beats in "O come è gran martire," creating an intensity which was lacking in the first two books.

The dissonances in Books IV and V were even more frequent and Monteverdi's treatment of them moved further yet from the *Prima Prattica*. Not only were the pedals in "Sfogava con le stelle" (Book IV) unacceptable to Artusi, but their occurring simultaneously with other non-harmonic tones increased the harsh effect. The unorthodox manner in which the composer resolved several suspensions (by leap instead of by step), and the way he created an accumulation of dissonances in the polyphonic conclusion to "Sfogava con le stelle" indicated that he was consciously making a departure from the *Prima Prattica*.

The madrigal from Book V, "Cruda Amarilli," contained the most daring uses of dissonances observed in this study. The unprepared ninth

(measure 13) which moved to a seventh before resolving was possibly the sonority which offended Artusi more than any other. Several other ninths and sevenths occurred also; some suspensions resolved in unconventional ways and others did not resolve. The diminished sonorities which functioned as leading-tone chords, as well as the dominant seventh chords, were no longer by-products of passing tones or suspensions, and were also seen as elements of the *Seconda Prattica*.

The remaining aspects of the *Seconda Prattica* which were mentioned in Chapter II occurred in all the madrigals analyzed, except that an emphasis on the mediant (indicating Monteverdi's awareness of the relationship between a minor key and its relative major) was not found in "Ecco mormorar l'onde" (Book II) or "Cruda Amarilli" (Book V). Mediant emphasis was most pronounced in the "Fumia" cycle (Book I). The first of those three madrigals began on the mediant (B^b), causing confusion about the tonal identity (G minor); the madrigal contained tonicizations of the mediant in two other places as well. A brief emphasis on the mediant occurred in the second madrigal of the cycle, and the last of the three madrigals included a tonicization not only of the mediant, but also of the mediant (F) of the minor dominant (D). Monteverdi emphasized the mediant in "O come è gran martire" (Book III) briefly and modulated to the mediant twice in "Sfogava con le stelle" (Book IV).

The departure from the continuous, flowing polyphony of the *Prima Prattica* for a more controlled style of polyphony, and the increased use of homophony were found in all five books. The first two madrigals from the "Fumia" cycle (Book I) began and ended in homophony, with brief

passages of polyphony in the middle phrases. The third madrigal from the cycle did begin and end in a polyphonic texture, but the spaces between points of imitation were such that the text was not blurred.

The opening passage in "Ecco mormorar l'onde" (Book II) was a tenor solo accompanied by the other voices. The imitative type of motive development in this madrigal gave way to a responsorial passage, and the polyphony which did occur in the composition was not in the style of the *Prima Prattica*. The homophonic trio texture which introduced "O come è gran martire" (Book III) was followed by a two-voice texture, and five-voice polyphony did not occur until the last twenty-five measures. Only two lines of the text were presented in the polyphonic passage, and the words were easily understood.

Declamatory homophony occurred in much of "Sfogava con le stelle" (Book IV). The small amount of polyphony which did appear in that composition was described by Leo Schrade as "Monteverdi's new counterpoint,"²⁸ in which two contrasting melodies are presented by groups of voices, rather than individual melodic lines being presented by the voices. "Cruda Amarilli" (Book V) also contained this new style of polyphony, but was written in a mostly homophonic texture.

The five books of madrigals also contained rhythms which were based on speech patterns, including several syncopated rhythmic patterns. None of the madrigals analyzed contained rhythms which distorted the texts for the sake of stylistic unity.

²⁸Leo Schrade, Monteverdi: Creator . . ., 192.

Cadence formulas based on dominant-to-tonic progressions occurred in each madrigal. Except for a few plagal and half cadences, the closes in these compositions were authentic. Beginning with "Ecco mormorar l'onde" (Book II) and continuing through "Cruda Amarilli" (Book V), these cadences also included the tonic six-four chord. The supertonic-to-tonic and leading tone cadences of the Prima Prattica were not found in the madrigals discussed.

Musical structures for these madrigals did not follow the external forms of the texts, but enhanced the meanings of those texts instead. The musical phrases in "O come è gran martire" (Book III) did follow the rhyme scheme of the text more closely than in other madrigals, but that did not interfere with the meaning of those phrases. The madrigals from the other four books all included phrases which elided line endings if thoughts were not completed by those endings, and new tone colors or textures were frequently used to indicate syntactic breaks in the texts.

Finally, bass melodic lines which provided harmonic foundations for the other voices were observed in all the madrigals. Strong root movement by fifth occurred, usually in the bass, but also in the tenor or alto if only upper voices were singing. Additionally, the sopranos (or whatever voices presented the highest pitches) had important melodies which could be considered solos accompanied by the other voices. This shift away from the equality of voices coincides with the shift away from the Prima Prattica.

This study has demonstrated that the Seconda Prattica was used by Monteverdi in his earliest works. All the elements of the Seconda Prattica which were mentioned in Chapter II occurred in the madrigals

from Book I on, with the exception of one: the element which was missing until the third book, Monteverdi's so-called "free use of dissonance," was the catalyst which set Artusi into motion and resulted in Monteverdi's giving the new compositional style a name.

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APPENDIX

TRANSLATIONS OF TEXTS

From Book I

Prima parte.

Fumia la pastorella,
Tessendo ghirlandetta,
Sen gia cantando in un prato di fiori.
Intorno intorno a quella
Scherzavan per l'herbetta
Ciprigna, il figlio e i pargoletti amori.
Ella, rivolta al sole
Dicea queste parole:

First part.

Fumia, the shepherdess,
Weaving a garland,
Went about singing in a meadow of flowers.
Around her
Were playing on the grass
Venus, her son and the tiny little cupids
She, turned toward the sun,
Was saying these words:

Seconda parte.

Almo divino raggio,
Della cui santa luce
Questa lieta stagion s'alluma e'ndora,
E'l bel mese di Maggio
Hoggi per te conduce
Dal ciel in terra la tua vaga Flora.
Deh, quel che ci annoia
Cangia in letizia, in gioia!

Second part.

Divine life-giving ray,
By your holy light
This happy season is lit and gilded,
And the beautiful month of May
Today, through you, guides
From heaven to earth your graceful Flora.
Pray, that that which oppresses us
Change into gladness, into joy!

Terza parte.

All' hora i pastor tutti
Del Tebro e Ninfe à schier' à schiera
Corsero à l' harmonia lieti e veloci,
Et di fior e di fruti
Che porta Primavera
Gli porgean doni et con rozze alte voci
Cantavan tuttavia
Le lodi di Fumia.

Third part.

Then all the shepherds
Of the Tiber and the Nymphs, band after band,
Ran toward the music, joyous and swift,
And of the flowers and the fruits
That Spring brings forth
They made gifts, and with rough and loud voices
They sang again and again
The praises of Fumia.

by Antonio Allegretti
translated by Fay Edwards

Source: Claudio Monteverdi, Il Primo Libro de Madrigali: A cinque Voci, Bernard Bailly de Surey, ed. (New York: Les Editions Renaissance, 1972).

From Book II

Ecco mormorar l'onde,
E tremolar le fronde
A l'aura mattutina, e gl'arborselli
E sovra i verdi rami i vagh'augelli
Cantar soavemente,
Erider l'Oriente.
Ecco già l'alb'appare
E si specchia nel mare,
E rasserena il cielo,
E'imperla il dolce gielo,
E gl'alti monti indora.
O bella e vagh'aurora
L'aura è tua messaggiera, e tu de l'aura
Ch'ogn'arso cor ristaura.

Now the waves murmur,
And the boughs and the shrubs tremble
In the morning breeze,
And on the green branches the pleasant birds
Sing softly,
And the east smiles.
Now dawn already appears
And mirrors herself in the sea,
And makes the sky serene,
And impearls the fields,
And gilds the high mountains.
O beautiful and gracious Aurora,
The breeze is your messenger, and you the breeze's
Which revives each burnt-out heart.

by Torquato Tasso
translated by Luciano Rebay

From Book III

O come è gran martire
A celar suo desire
quando con pura fede
S'ama chi non se'l crede
O soave mio ardore
O giusto mio disio
S'ognun ama il suo core
E voi sete il cor mio
All' hora non fia ch'io v'ami
quando sarà che viver più non brami.

O what consuming torment
To conceal secret passion
When we love in good faith
But meet disbelief and proud scorn
O sweet fire of my passion
O just and right desiring
Each must follow his own heart
And since thou art my whole heart
I therefore needs must love thee
Till life is ended shall I ever love thee.

by Giambattista Guarini
translator unknown

From Book IV

Sfogava con le stelle
un inferno d'amore
sotto notturno ciel il suo dolore,
e dicea fisso in loro:
"O imagini belle
de l'idol mio ch'adoro,
si com'a me mostrate
mentre così splendete
la sua rara beltate,
così mostrast'a lei
i vivi ardori mei
la fareste col vostr'aureo sembiante
pietosa sì, come me fat'amante."

A lovesick man poured forth
to the stars
in the nighttime sky his grief,
and said, his eyes fixed on them:
"Oh beautiful images
of my idol, whom I adore,
just as you show me,
while you glisten thus,
her rare beauty,
so show her
my burning ardor
with your golden semblance you might make her
kind, just as you make me lovelorn."

by Ottavio Rinuccini
translated by Gary Tomlinson

From Book V

Cruda Amarilli
Che col nome ancora
D'amar ahi lasso amaramente insegni
Amarilli del candido ligustro
Più candidae più bella
Ma dell'Aspido sordo
E più sordae più fera e più fugace
Poi che col dir t'offendo
I mi morro tacendo.

Cruel Amaryllis
Thou whose name is tender and sweet
Thou alas, bitten, unloving despite thy fond name
Amaryllis, more beautiful and whiter
Thou whitest privet's fair flower
Wilder far than the adder
Stealthy adder, more ferocious
And more elusive
Lest these my words offend thee
I needs must die, my lips sealed.

by P. F. Guarini
translator unknown

Source: The record jacket of Claudio Monteverdi, Seven Madrigals
(A sound recording by Archive Production, 1959).

VITA

Eileen Lovett Weber was born in Fort Worth, Texas, on March 31, 1958. She attended schools in Florida, Alabama and Georgia, and graduated from Peach County High School in Fort Valley, Georgia, in June 1976. The following September she entered Carson Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee, and in June 1980 she received a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education. In the fall of 1982 Mrs. Weber began study at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville toward a Master of Music degree in music theory. This degree was awarded in June 1989.

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