

Editor's Note

The German composer Christoph Willibald Gluck (1714-1787) was one of the most important opera composers of the classical era. Born in Bavaria, Germany, Gluck composed his first opera, *Artaserse*, in 1741. He thereafter composed prolifically for the stage, traveling extensively through Europe before settling in Vienna to serve as the Kapellmeister to Maria Theresa of Austria.

It was in Vienna that Gluck worked to reform opera. *Orfeo ed Euridice* was the first of his reform operas, in which Gluck attempted to replace the complicated plots and complex musical numbers with more simplified productions. He eventually retired with a legacy of about thirty-five operas, plus several ballets and instrumental works.

“Torna, O Bella” concludes the second act of Gluck’s mythological opera *Orfeo ed Euridice*, when the chorus welcomes Orfeo to the Elysian Field and happily leads Euridice toward Orfeo so that the joyful couple can then be reunited. Originally set to a libretto by Ranieri de’ Calzabigi and scored for S.A.T.B. chorus with bassoons, French horns, strings, and continuo, this arrangement for S.S.A. voices includes a piano reduction of the instrumental parts as the accompaniment. Dynamics, the tempo indication, and optional English words have also been added by the editor.

This chorus should be performed very smoothly while closely following the suggested dynamics and emphasizing the normally stressed syllables. Accent marks are indicated over those syllables in the following pronunciation guide.

Italian Pronunciation Guide

Tor-na, o bel-la, al tuo con-sor-te,
tóhr-nahaw béhl-lahl tooaw kohn-sáwr-ten.

Che non vuol che più di-vi-so
keh nawn vooawl keh pjoo dee-veé-zaw

Sia da te pie-to-so, il ciel.
seeah dah tay pjay-tóh-zoehl chehl.

Non la-gnar-ti di tua sor-te,
nawn lah-náhr-tee dee tooah sáwr-ten,

Che può dir-si un al-tro E-li-so (al-tro E-li-so)
keh poodv deer-seeoon áhl-traw ay-leé-zaw (áhl-traway-leé-zaw)

U-no spo-so sì fe-del.
oo-naw spáw-zo see foy-déhl.

Suggestions for pronunciation:

An “r” that is underlined should be rolled.

When singing the word “bella,” the double consonants can be sustained on a pitch while maintaining a legato line. The singer should take time for the singable double consonants in “bella” from the preceding musical note.

The “j” in the transliteration should be pronounced like the “i” in “onion.”

The underlined “n” indicates that the tip of the tongue should be in contact with the lower front teeth while the front of the tongue is raised and pressed against the front of the hard palate. Nasality is then produced when breath passes through the nose.

TORNA, O BELLA

from *Orfeo ed Euridice*

for S.S.A. voices and piano
with optional flutes and PianoTrax CD*

Italian words by
RANIERI de' CALZABIGI (1714-1795)
English setting by **PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN**

Music by **CHRISTOPH WILLIBALD GLUCK** (1714-1787)
Edited and Arranged by **PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN**

Joyfully and lightly (♩ = ca. 126)

FLUTES
(optional)

PIANO

5 SOPRANO I

mf

Sing this day! Rise up with pleas -

SOPRANO II

mf

Sing this day! Rise up with pleas -

ALTO

mf

Sing this day! Rise up with pleas -

* PianoTrax 4 Accompaniment CD available (35870).
Please visit alfred.com/choralparts to download individual flute parts.

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te, Che non vuol che più di -
 ure! Cel e - brate your love to -

te, Che non vuol che più di -
 ure! Cel e - brate your love to -

te, Che non vuol che più di -
 ure! Cel e - brate your love to -

mf *f*

vi - so Sia da te, pie - to - so il
 geth - er. Join with song through day and

vi - so Sia da te, pie - to - so il
 geth - er. Join with song through day and

vi - so Sia da te, pie - to - so il
 geth - er. Join with song through day and

17

18 *mp*

ciel. _____ Non la - gnar - ti
 night. _____ Sing the joy - ful
mp

ciel. _____ Non la - gnar - ti
 night. _____ Sing the joy - ful
mp

ciel. _____ Non la - gnar - ti
 night. _____ Sing the joy - ful

mp

20

cresc. poco a poco

di tua sor - te. Che può
 news you treas - ure. Raise your
cresc. poco a poco

di tua sor - te. Che può
 news you treas - ure. Raise your
cresc. poco a poco

di tua sor - te. Che può
 news you treas - ure. Raise your

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

23

dir - si un al - tro E - li - so U no
 voice _____ to sing out for - ev - er. Sing u -

dir - si un al - tro E - li - so U no
 voice _____ to sing out for - ev - er. Sing u -

dir - si un al - tro E - li - so U no
 voice _____ to sing out for - ev - er. Sing u -

27

spo - so si fe - del. Non la -
 nit - ed with de - light. Sing the

spo - so si fe - del.
 nit - ed with de - light.

spo - so si fe - del. Non la -
 nit - ed with de - light. Sing the

31

mp

gnar - ti di tua
 joy - ful news you

mf

Non la - gnar - ti
 Sing the joy - ful

mp

gnar - ti di tua sor - te, Che può
 joy - ful news you treas - ure. Cel - e

mp

mp

35

sor - te, Che può
 treas - ure. Raise your

mp *f*

di tua sor - te, Che può
 news you treas - ure. Raise your

f

dir - si un al - tro E - li - so, Che può
 brate your love to - geth - er. Raise your

mp *f*

dir - si un al - tro E - li - so
 voice to sing for - ev - er.

dir - si un al - tro E - li - so
 voice to sing for - ev - er.

dir - si un al - tro E - li - so
 voice to sing for - ev - er.

U - no spo - so si fe -
 Sing u - nit - ed with de -

U - no spo - so si fe -
 Sing u - nit - ed with de -

U - no spo - so si fe -
 Sing u - nit - ed with de -

47

del, u - no spo - so, u - no spo - so
 light, sing for - ev - er, sing u - nit - ed

del, u - no spo so
 light, sing u - nit ed

del, u - no spo - so
 light, sing u - nit - ed

mp *f*

mp *f*

51

si fe - del!
 with de - light!

si fe - del!
 with de - light!

si fe - del!
 with de - light!

55

mf

Tor - na, o bel - la, al tuo con - sor
 Sing this day! Rise up with pleas -

Tor - na, o bel - la, al tuo con - sor
 Sing this day! Rise up with pleas -

Tor - na, o bel - la, al tuo con - sor
 Sing this day! Rise up with pleas -

*mf**mf*

59

te, Che non vuol che più di -
 ure! Cel - e - brate your love to -

te, Che non vuol che più di -
 ure! Cel - e - brate your love to -

te, Che non vuol che più di -
 ure! Cel - e - brate your love to -

*a2**f**f*

63

vi - so SIA da te pie - to - so il
geth - er. Join with song through day and

vi - so SIA da te pie - to - so il
geth - er. Join with song through day and

vi - so SIA da te pie - to - so il
geth - er. Join with song through day and

67

69

ciel. U - no spo - so
night. Sing u - nit - ed

ciel. U - no spo - so
night. Sing u - nit - ed

ciel. U - no spo - so
night. Sing u - nit - ed

si fe - del, u - no spo-so, u - no
with de - light, sing for - ev - er, sing u -

si fe - del, u - no
with de - light, sing u -

si fe - del, u - no
with de - light, sing u -

f

f

f

mp *f*

mp *f*

mp *f*

a2

spo - so, spo - so si fe - del!
nit - ed, sing for - ev er - more!

spo - so, spo - so si fe - del!
nit - ed, sing for - ev er - more!

spo - so, spo - so si fe - del!
nit - ed, sing for - ev er - more!

rit. *ff*

rit. *ff*

rit. *ff*

rit. *ff*

rit. *ff*

rit. *ff*