

ORPHEUS BRITANNICUS

Musick for a While

FROM

Oedipus, 1692

Z583/2

COMPOS'D

By Mr. Henry Purcell

FOR

Soprano

AND

A THROUGH-BASS

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"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

John Dryden

Henry Purcell

Original in c minor

Soprano

Continuo realized by W. F. Long

MU - SICK,

Harpsichord

Guitar

Mu - - - sick for a_ while, shall all your Cares be - guile, shall all, all,

"Musick for a while" is from the incidental music to Oedipus. It is on page 126 of Book II of *Orpheus Britannicus*. The original key is C minor, here transposed down to A minor. The bass is unfigured in *Orpheus*. There is a continuo realization for keyboard, and realizations for guitar and baroque guitar. The baroque guitar part was written for a five course instrument with diapasons on the 4th and 5th string.

In Greek mythology, *Alecto* was one of the furies, a goddess whose job is the castigation of those guilty of moral crimes. She had snakes for hair, dogs' head, bats' wings, and blood dripped from her eyes. She wields a studded whip. In Dryden's poem, the ext for this song, music calms Alecto until she drops her whip and the snakes fall from her head.

"Musick for a while"

all, shall all, all, all, — shall all, your Cares be - guile; wond -

- 'ring, wond - - 'ring how your Pains — were eas'd, eas'd,

eas'd, — and dis - dain - ing to be pleas'd, till A - lec - to free — the

"Musick for a while"

17 Dead, till A-*lec* - - - - to free the Dead, from their E-ter - - - -

20 - nal, E-ter - - - - - nal Band;

23 till the *Snakes* drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop

The musical score consists of a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and a separate line for figured bass with numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and #. The vocal line has lyrics: "Dead, till A-*lec* - - - - to free the Dead, from their E-ter - - - -", "- nal, E-ter - - - - - nal Band;", and "till the *Snakes* drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop".

"Musick for a while"

from her Head; and the Whip, and the Whifronout her Hand;

Mu - sick, Mu - - - sick for a_ while shall all your cares be -

guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, — shall all, yourcares be -

The musical score consists of three systems. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system starts at measure 26 with the lyrics 'from her Head; and the Whip, and the Whifronout her Hand;'. The second system starts at measure 29 with the lyrics 'Mu - sick, Mu - - - sick for a_ while shall all your cares be -'. The third system starts at measure 32 with the lyrics 'guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, — shall all, yourcares be -'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. The vocal line has various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests.

"Musick for a while"

35

guile. all, all, all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, youcares be - guile.

35

35

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

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Henry Purcell

Original in c minor

Soprano

Continuo

MU - SICK,

5
Mu - sick for a while, shall all your Cares be - guile, shall all, all,

8
all, shall all, all, all, shall all, your Cares be - guile; wond -

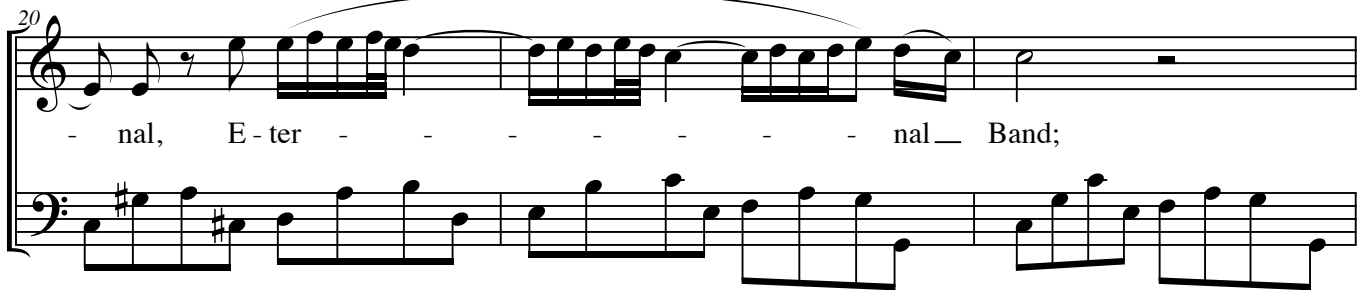
11
- 'ring, wond - - 'ring how your Pains were eas'd, eas'd,

14
eas'd, and dis - dain - ing to be pleas'd, till A - lec - to free the

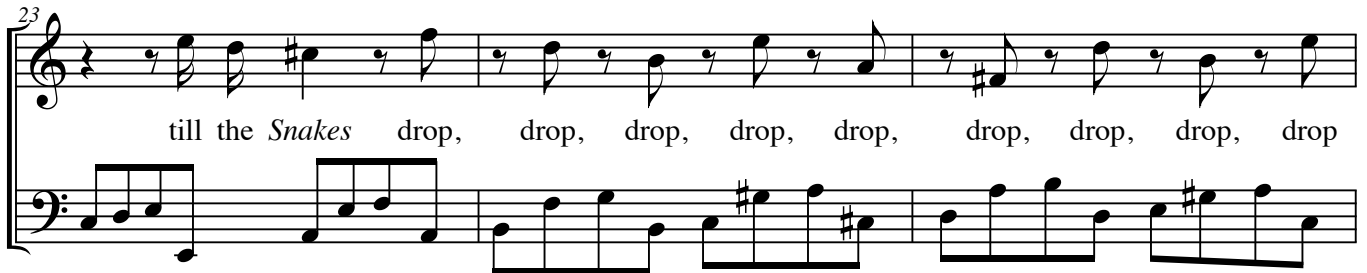
17
Dead, till A - lec - to free the Dead, from their E - ter - - -

"Musick for a while"

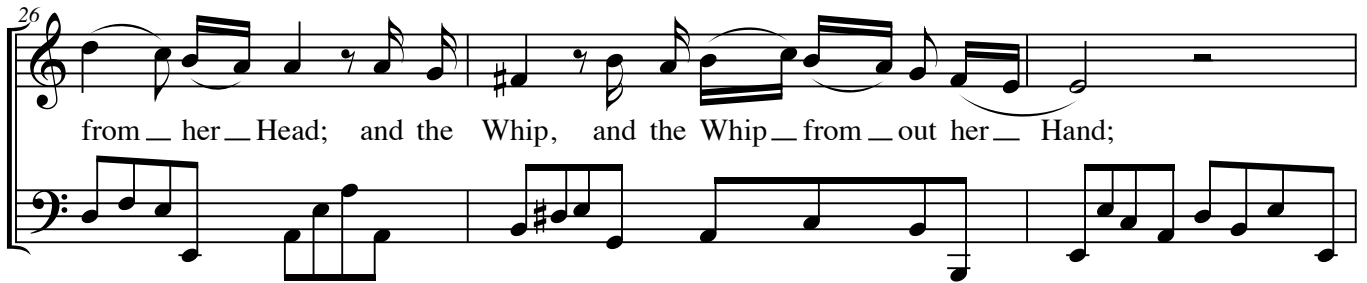
20
- nal, E - ter - - - - - nal - Band;



23
till the Snakes drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop



26
from - her - Head; and the Whip, and the Whip - from - out her - Hand;



29
Mu - sick, Mu - - sick for - a - while shall all your - cares be -



32
guile; - shall all, all, all, all, all, all, - shall all, - your - cares be -



35
guile. all, all, all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, your - cares be - guile.



"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

John Dryden

Henry Purcell

Original in c minor

Soprano

Continuo realized by W. F. Long

Harpisichord

4 MU - SICK, Mu - - - sick for a_ while, shall all your Cares be -

7 guile, shall all, all, all, shall all, all, all, — shall all, your Cares be -

"Musick for a while"

10

guile; wond - 'ring, wond - - - 'ring how your Pains _____ were

13

eas'd, eas'd, eas'd, and dis-dain-ing to be pleas'd, till A - lec - to free _____ the

17

Dead, till A - lec - - - to free the Dead, from their E - ter - - - -

"Musick for a while"

20

nal, E - ter - - - - - nal Band;

23

till the *Snakes* drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop

26

from her Head; and the Whip, and the Whip from out her Hand;

"Musick for a while"

29

Mu - sick, Mu - - - sick for a_ while shall all your cares be -

This system contains measures 29, 30, and 31. The vocal line begins with a half note 'Mu', followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note 'sick'. A long slur covers measures 30 and 31, starting with a half note 'Mu' and ending with a quarter note 'sick'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a moving bass line in the left hand.

32

guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, — shall all, yourcares be -

This system contains measures 32, 33, and 34. The vocal line starts with a quarter note 'guile;', followed by quarter notes 'shall all, all, all, all, all, all, —'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line.

35

guile. all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, yourcares be - guile.

This system contains measures 35, 36, and 37. The vocal line starts with a quarter note 'guile.', followed by quarter notes 'all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, yourcares be - guile.'. The piano accompaniment concludes with chords and a final bass note.

Soprano
& Guitar

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

John Dryden

Henry Purcell

Original in c minor

Soprano

Guitar

MU - SICK, Mu - - - sick for a_ while, shall all your Cares be -

guile, shall all, all, all, shall all, all, all, — shall all, your Cares be -

guile; wond - - 'ring, wond - - - 'ring how your Pains _____ were

The score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a Soprano line and a Guitar line. The Soprano line contains the lyrics, and the Guitar line contains the accompaniment with fingerings and chord diagrams. The key signature is one flat (c minor) and the time signature is common time (C). The first system starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The second system starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The third system starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: MU - SICK, Mu - - - sick for a_ while, shall all your Cares be - guile, shall all, all, all, shall all, all, all, — shall all, your Cares be - guile; wond - - 'ring, wond - - - 'ring how your Pains _____ were

13
eas'd, — eas'd, — eas'd, — and dis - dain - ing to be pleas'd, till A -

16
lec - to free — the Dead, till A-lec - - - to free the Dead, from

19
their E-ter - - - - - nal, E-ter - - - - - nal Band;

23
till the Snakes drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop

26

from — her Head; and the Whip, and the Whip from out her Hand;

29

Mu - sick, Mu - - - sick for a — while shall all your cares be -

32

guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, — shall all, your cares be -

35

guile. all, all, all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, your cares be - guile.

Soprano &
Baroque
Guitar

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

John Dryden

Henry Purcell

Original in c minor

Soprano

Baroque
Guitar

MU - SICK, Mu - - - sick for a_ while, shall all your Cares be -

guile, shall all, all, all, shall all, all, all, — shall all, your Cares be -

guile; wond - - 'ring, wond - - - 'ring how your Pains_____ were

The musical score is written for Soprano and Baroque Guitar. The Soprano part is in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The Baroque Guitar part is also in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into three systems. The first system shows the beginning of the piece. The second system starts at measure 4 and includes the lyrics 'MU - SICK, Mu - - - sick for a_ while, shall all your Cares be -'. The third system starts at measure 7 and includes the lyrics 'guile, shall all, all, all, shall all, all, all, — shall all, your Cares be -'. The fourth system starts at measure 10 and includes the lyrics 'guile; wond - - 'ring, wond - - - 'ring how your Pains_____ were'. The Baroque Guitar part includes fingering numbers (1-4) and a 7-measure rest at the beginning. The Soprano part has a 4-measure rest at the beginning of the second system and a 7-measure rest at the beginning of the third system.

13
eas'd, eas'd, eas'd, and dis - dain - ing to be pleas'd, till A -

Musical notation for measures 13-15. The vocal line consists of eighth and quarter notes. The guitar accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line with chords, including a barre at the first fret.

16
lec - to free the Dead, till A - lec - - - to free the Dead, from

Musical notation for measures 16-18. The vocal line continues with eighth and quarter notes. The guitar accompaniment maintains the eighth-note bass line with various chordal accompaniment.

19
their E - ter - - - - nal, E - ter - - - - - nal Band;

Musical notation for measures 19-22. Measures 19 and 20 feature a dense sixteenth-note passage in the vocal line. The guitar accompaniment continues with the eighth-note bass line.

23
till the Snakes drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop, drop

Musical notation for measures 23-26. The vocal line consists of repeated eighth notes. The guitar accompaniment continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords.

26

from — her Head; and the Whip, and the Whip from out her Hand;

29

Mu - sick, Mu - - - sick for a — while shall all your cares be -

32

guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, — shall all, your cares be -

35

guile. all, all, all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, your cares be - guile.

Soprano

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

John Dryden

Henry Purcell

viola da gamba

MU-SICK,

Mu - sick for a while, shall all your Cares be - guile, shall all, all,

all, shall all, all, all, shall all, your Care be - guile; wond -

'ring, wond - - - 'ring how your Pains were eas'd, eas'd, eas'd, and dis -

dain - ing to be pleas'd, till A - lec - to free the Dead, till A - lec -

- to free the Dead, from their E - ter - - - - nal, E - ter - - -

- - - - - nal Band; till the Snakes drop, drop, drop, drop, drop,

drop, drop, drop, drop from her Head; and the Whip, and the Whip from out her Hand;

Mu - sick, Mu - sick for a while shall all your cares be -

guile; shall all, all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, your cares be -

guile. all, all, all, all, all, all, all, shall all, your cares be - guile.

Harpichord

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

Henry Purcell

Continuo realized by W. F. Long

4

9

14

19

"Musick for a while"

23

Musical notation for measures 23-26. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble staff contains chords and melodic fragments, while the bass staff features a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

27

Musical notation for measures 27-30. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble staff contains chords and melodic fragments, while the bass staff features a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

31

Musical notation for measures 31-34. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble staff contains chords and melodic fragments, while the bass staff features a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

35

Musical notation for measures 35-38. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble staff contains chords and melodic fragments, while the bass staff features a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The piece concludes with a final chord in the treble staff.

Guitar

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

John Dryden

Henry Purcell

The image displays a guitar score for the piece "Musick for a while" from the opera *Orpheus Britannicus*. The score is written in treble clef with a common time signature (C). It consists of seven staves of music, each beginning with a measure number: 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, and 19. The notation includes a variety of rhythmic values such as eighth, sixteenth, and thirty-second notes, as well as rests. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above or below notes. Bar lines are present at the end of each staff. The piece is in a key with one sharp (F#), and the guitar part is a single melodic line.

Guitar

"Musick for a while"

This image shows a page of guitar sheet music for the piece "Musick for a while". The music is written in a single system with six staves, each containing a line of music. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The piece begins at measure 22. The notation includes a variety of rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. There are several instances of triplets and sixteenth-note runs. Chords are indicated by vertical lines with notes below them, and some are enclosed in boxes. Fingering numbers (1-4) are placed above notes to indicate fingerings. The piece concludes at measure 37 with a final chord and a double bar line.

Baroque
Guitar

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

John Dryden

Henry Purcell

The image displays a musical score for Baroque guitar, consisting of seven staves of music. The score is written in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The key signature is one sharp (F#), indicating the key of D major. The music is a single melodic line with a bass line, typical of Baroque guitar notation. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and sixteenth notes, along with fingerings (1-4) and breath marks. The piece is divided into measures, with measure numbers 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, and 19 indicated at the beginning of their respective staves. The notation includes a variety of rhythmic patterns and melodic phrases, characteristic of Purcell's style.

Baroque
Guitar

"Musick for a while"

The image displays a musical score for Baroque guitar, titled "Musick for a while". The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of six staves of music, each beginning with a measure number: 22, 25, 28, 31, 34, and 37. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1 through 4. The piece concludes with a final chord in the sixth staff, marked with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Viola da
Gamba

"Musick for a while" from *Orpheus Britannicus*

Henry Purcell

4

7

10

13

16

19

22

25

28

31

34

37