

# TUNE THY MUSICK TO THY HART

## *Part the First: Love's Ecstasy*

1. Guillaume de Machaut (c.1300-1377) - "Douce Dame Jolie" (14th century French)
  - "Douce Dame Jolie" is a courtly love song composed by Guillaume de Machaut, a prominent figure in medieval music. With its elegant melody and graceful lyrics, the piece serves as an ode to the beauty and allure of a beloved lady. Machaut's composition exemplifies the refined expressions of courtly love prevalent during the medieval period, where admiration and devotion were celebrated through poetic verses and melodic intricacies.
  
2. Giulio Caccini (1551-1618)- "Dolcissimo Sospiro" (16th century Italian)
  - "Dolcissimo Sospiro" by Giulio Caccini is a madrigal that exemplifies the expressive capabilities of the human voice. Through the delicate interplay between the solo voice and the continuo, Caccini's composition captures the sweet sighs and the abrupt timings of tender emotions of love. The enchanting melodies and dynamics of the piece invite the listener into a world of intimate emotions and heartfelt yearning.
  
3. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)- "Mit Verlangen druck' ich deine zarten Wangen" from Cantata BWV 32 (18th century German)
  - In this aria from Bach's Secular Cantata BWV 32, the composer beautifully expresses the intense longing and desire felt for Apollo's beloved Hyacinth. The melodic lines are filled with yearning, while the textures of the accompaniment enhance the emotional depth of the piece. Bach's masterful composition skillfully portrays the fervent emotions and the exquisite sensations experienced when deeply in love.

## *Intermission*

Lute interlude from Pierre Attaignant's (c.1494-1552) setting of "Tant que Vivray"

4. Claudin de Sermisy (c.1490-1562) - "Tant que Vivray" (16th century French)
  - "Tant que Vivray" by Claudin de Sermisy is a joyful chanson celebrating the enduring power of love. The lively and rhythmic composition reflects the exuberance and vitality found in relationships that withstand the test of time. Sermisy's piece showcases the expressive possibilities of vocal music in conveying the happiness and fulfillment that come from a deep and lasting bond of love. This piece comes to us in many forms, including a lute solo and a four part vocal arrangement. Presented here is my own lute arrangement from the 4 part voices, attempting to stay as faithful as I can to the voice leading and voicings of the vocal arrangement.

*Part the Second: Love's Turmoil*

5. Thomas Campion (1567-1620) - "Tune Thy Music to Thy Heart" (17th century English)
  - "Tune Thy Music to Thy Heart" by Thomas Campion is a tender and introspective song that emphasizes the importance of aligning one's music with the emotions of the heart. Campion's composition encourages a deep connection between music and personal feelings, highlighting the role of music as a powerful medium for expressing and experiencing love's different shades and intensities.
  
6. John Dowland (1563-1626) - "Can She Excuse My Wrongs" (16th century English)
  - In this melancholic lute song by John Dowland, the composer explores the complexities of unrequited love. Through introspective lyrics and the somber tones of the lute, with his masterful polyphony Dowland combines lute and voice to capture the anguish and longing of a heart yearning for affection. The piece delves into the depths of human emotions, portraying the inner turmoil and emotional struggle that arise when love remains unreciprocated.
  
7. George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)- "I Rage, I Melt, I Burn/Oh Ruddier Than the Cherry" from *Acis and Galatea* (18th century German-British)
  - Handel's fiery aria, from the pastoral opera *Acis and Galatea* vividly expresses the tumultuous emotions of love. With intense vocal lines and dramatic orchestration, Handel captures the conflicting feelings of desire, jealousy, and passion. The piece embodies the tumultuous nature of human love, where emotions can fluctuate between burning intensity and fervent despair. ☹️explain context in wider work
  
8. Alessandro Scarlatti (1660-1725) - "Tra Speranza e Timore" (17th century Italian)
  - "Tra Speranza e Timore" by Alessandro Scarlatti is a cantata that depicts the contrasting emotions of hope and fear in love. Through dramatic vocal lines and richly ornamented melodies, Scarlatti masterfully portrays the emotional turmoil experienced when love hangs in the balance. The composition captures the inherent vulnerability and uncertainty that accompanies the journey of love, underscoring its capacity to inspire both elation and trepidation. ☹️☹️include role of violin in this and Handel

Note: In the months before the artist's wedding, this recital program has been designed to showcase the theme of love, exploring its different facets, from courtly love to theatrical paintings of love, and from longing and desire to the turmoil and complexities of human emotions shown throughout history. Each piece offers a unique perspective, showcasing the depth and breadth of love's kaleidoscopic nature.