

Vezzosi augelli

Text by Torquato Tasso (1544-1595)

Music by Giaches de Wert (1535-1596)

Vezzosi augelli infra le verdi fronde  
Temprano a prova lascivette note  
Mormora l'aura, e fa le foglie e l'onde  
Garrir, che variamente ella percote.  
Quando taccion gli augelli, alto risponde;  
Quando cantan gli augei, più lieve scote.  
Sia caso o d'arte, or accompagna, ed ora  
Alterna i versi lor la musica ora.

Small, pretty birds among the verdant boughs,  
Compete in modulating their sweet notes.  
The breeze murmurs, and makes the foliage and the  
stream stir variously as it strikes.  
When the birds are silent, [the breeze] rises;  
When the birds sing, it blows more softly.  
Either by chance or by art, the breeze now  
accompanies, Now alternates with the birds' music.