

9 spoken text

10 piano accompaniment

# Nina

## Nina

Poet unknown

Anonymous (18th century)

Andantino [ $\text{♩} = c.80$ ]

Original key  
G minor

5

9

*[mf]*

Tre gior - ni son che Ni - na, che Ni - na In  
Three days are that Nina, that Nina, in  
men - tre il sior dot - to re, dot - to re A  
while the sir doctor, doctor, to

*[mf]*

13

*tr*

let - to se ne sta, In let - to se ne  
bed [herself from-there] stays, in bed [herself from-there]  
vi - si - tar - la va, A vi - si - tar - la  
visit-her goes, to visit-her

3 spoken text

4 piano accompaniment

Italian folksong

# Santa Lucia

*Saint Lucy*

Teodoro Cottrau  
(1827–79)

Andantino [ $\text{♩} = c.100$ ]

Original  
key

*mp*

6 *mp*

Sul ma - re luc-ci-ca l'a - stro d'ar - gen-to, Pla - ci - da è  
Above-the sea glistens the star of silver, calm is

12

l'on - da, pro - spe-ro è il ven - to; Sul ma - re luc-ci-ca l'a - stro d'ar -  
the wave, favourable is the wind; Above-the sea glistens the star of

18

- gen - to, Pla - ci - da è l'on - da, pro - spe-ro è il ven - to;  
silver, calm is the wave, favourable is the wind;

# Caro mio ben

*My dear beloved*

Tommaso Giordani (1730–1806)

## Background

Born in Naples, Tommaso Giordani lived his life in Dublin and London. Not only was he a prolific composer, writing many overtures, sonatas, concertos and some operas, he was also famed for the many concerts he organised. It is believed that *Caro mio ben*, now a staple song in the student singer's repertoire, was composed for one of these events. There is some dispute as to whether this was composed by Tommaso or Giuseppe Giordani (1743–98).

## Idiomatic translation

My dear beloved,  
believe me at least,  
without you,  
my heart languishes.

Your faithful one  
always sighs.  
Cruel one,  
cease so much rigidity.

## Pronunciation – Caro mio ben [kaɾo miɔ bɛn]

Caro mio ben,  
kaɾo miɔ bɛn

Il tuo fedel  
il tuɔ fɛdɛl

credimi almen,  
krɛdimi al mɛn

sospira ognor.  
sospira oɲɔr

senza di te  
sɛntsa di tɛ

Cessa, crudel,  
tʃɛs:sa krudɛl

languisce il cor.  
langwiʃɛil kɔr

tanto rigor!  
tɑntɔ riɡɔr

## Further notes

This song uses all the Italian vowels in a few words. Remember, the vowels are pure (no diphthongs), even if liaised (i.e. *credimi almen*). Do be careful to avoid the English 'ng' sound in the word *languisce*. It is an Italian 'n' with the tip of the tongue just behind the upper front teeth.