

The Career of an Eighteenth-Century Kapellmeister:  
The Life and Music of Antonio Rosetti

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Sterling Murray, University of Rochester Press, 2014

Musical Examples in Supplement  
Chapter 17: Keyboard Pieces and Lieder

❖ **Example 17D**

The text of “Doris an das Klavier” falls into eight lines of four or three stresses, each arranged in iambic feet alternating short and long (in bold print) syllables.

- (1) Ge – **fähr** - te **mei-** ner **Ein** – sam - **keit**
- (2) Ver – **gnu** - gen - **des** Kla - **vier!**
- (3) Ein **fro** - hes **Lied** voll **Dank** – bar - **keit**
- (4) Singt **dei** - ne **Freun** - din **dir**

Rosetti fashions his musical setting to the accent patterns of the poetry. Although he decorates the melody line with passing tones, it still closely adheres to the metric rhythm established in the text. Rosetti handles the procedure so well that, even after a single hearing, the words seem quite natural in their musical setting.

**Doris an das Klavier (F22), Andante con espressione, mm. 1-8**

The situation in “Der junge Baum” (F39), on a text by Christian Felix Wieße (1726-1804), is a bit different. Here Rosetti adjusts the song’s musical structure in a subtle way to accommodate an extension in the poetry. The poem adheres to a stanza of four lines, the last of which is repeated.

- (1) Das **lie**-be, **klei-** ne **Bäum**-chen **hier**
- (2) Ist, **wie** man **sagt**, gleich **alt** mit **mir**
- (3) Und **trägt** so **jung** und **zart**
- (4) Schon **Früch**-te **von** der **be**- sten **Art**
- (5) Schon **Früch**-te **von** der **be**- sten **Art**

The first, second, and fourth lines include four accents, but the third line has only three. In the musical setting in 2/4 this is made clear by inserting rests both before and after the third musical phrase sung to the words “und trägt so jung und zart.” This phrase also counters the early shift to the dominant typical in Rosetti’s songs, and refocuses on the tonic, which then continues through to the end.

Example 17D: Doris an das Klavier (F22), mm. 1-8  
Andante con espressione

Voice

Ge - fähr - te mei - ner Ein - sam - keit verg - nü - gen des Kla - vier! ein

Piano

*pp*

8 8 8

5

froh - es Lied voll Dank - bar - keit singt dei - ne Freun - din dir:

*f*

8 8 8