

PASQUALE CAFARO

STABAT MATER

per Soprano, Contralto, archi e b.c.

A cura di Francesco Cirillo

**Pasquale Cafaro**, nato a S. Pietro in Galantina nel 1715; fu indirizzato dalla famiglia agli studi "scientifici" (*scienza del diritto*) ma ben presto li abbandonò per quelli musicali.

Entrò quindi come *figliolo* al Conservatorio della Pietà de' Turchini a 18 anni, quasi da adulto. Ebbe come principale maestro uno dei maggiori musicisti del '700, Leonardo Leo, che riconobbe subito il talento del giovane. Rimase a lungo alla "Pietà" come allievo prima e poi come *mastricello*; infine, alla morte del maestro, gli succedette meritatamente.

Era un esperto conoscitore della vocalità e in questa veste fu nominato maestro di canto della regina Maria Carolina.

Il servizio di corte gli divenne talmente insopportabile per i continui viaggi (riteniamo alquanto debilitanti in quell'epoca) verso le regge di Portici e Caserta e alle varie sontuose residenze di caccia, da preferir lasciare il posto, oltremodo remunerato, al suo allievo Giacomo Tritto.

Fu così stimato come compositore di musica sacra (ma fu anche acclamato operista) che il sommo Jommelli, invitato a mettere in musica un Salmo "si scusò dicendo modestamente che prima

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**Pasquale Cafaro**, born in S. Pietro in Galantina in 1715; he was directed by his family to "scientific" studies (*science of law*) but soon abandoned them for musical ones.

He then entered the Conservatorio della Pietà de' Turchini as a son at the age of 18, almost as an adult. His main teacher was one of the greatest musicians of the 18th century, Leonardo Leo, who immediately recognized the young man's talent. He remained at the "Pietà" for a long time as a pupil first and then as a *mastricello*; finally, on the master's death, he deservedly succeeded him.

He was an expert connoisseur of vocality and in this capacity he was appointed singing master of Queen Maria Carolina. The court service became considerably unbearable for him due to the continuous journeys (we consider them rather debilitating at that time) to the palaces of Portici and Caserta and to the various sumptuous hunting lodges, preferring to leave the place, extremely remunerated, to his pupil Giacomo Tritto.

He was so esteemed as a composer of sacred music (but he was also an acclaimed opera composer) that the great Jommelli, invited to set a Psalm to music, "*apologized modestly saying that first the learned and elegant music of Cafaro had to*

# Stabat Mater

per Soprano, Contralto, archi e b.c.

Pasquale Cafaro (Caffariello)

*San Pietro in Galantina, 1715 - Napoli, 1787*

*Prima edizione assoluta a cura di  
Francesco Cirillo*

**Andantino**

Soprano

Contralto

Pianoforte

*p* *mf* *p*

The first system of the musical score. It features three staves: Soprano, Contralto, and Piano. The Soprano and Contralto staves contain whole rests. The Piano part is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clef) with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats. The tempo is marked 'Andantino'. Dynamics are indicated as *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano).

5

*mf*

The second system of the musical score, starting at measure 5. It features three staves: Soprano, Contralto, and Piano. The Soprano and Contralto staves contain whole rests. The Piano part continues with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The dynamic is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte).

9

Sta - bat ma - ter do - lo - ro - sa,

Sta - - - bat ma - ter do - lo - ro - sa

14

iux - ta cru - cem la - cri - mo - - -

iux - ta cru - cem la - cri - mo - - -

*p* *mf*

19

sa dum pen - de - bat Fi - li -

sa dum pen - de - - - bat Fi - li -

*f*