

CORPUS OF EARLY KEYBOARD MUSIC

JOHN CALDWELL
General Editor

Annibale Padovano, Sperindio Bertoldo, and
“d’Incerto” (“Uncertain” Composer)

COMPOSITIONS FOR KEYBOARD

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MUSICOLOGY

Paul L. Ranzini
Director

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34

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Edited by
Klaus Speer



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Foreword

The present volume contains all the known extant keyboard compositions of two contemporaneous Italian composers, Annibale Padovano (ca. 1527–ca. 1575) and Sperindio Bertoldo (ca. 1530–1570). Both were connected with Padua, for Annibale was born in that city and Bertoldo worked there.

What is known of the life and works of Annibale il Padovano we owe to a monograph by Giacomo del Valle de Paz¹ and to Pierront and Hennebains's detailed introduction to their edition of Annibale's book of ensemble ricercari of 1556.²

Annibale was born in Padua ca. 1527. He was one of the organists of San Marco in Venice from 1552 to 1566, concurrently first with Parabosco and then with Merulo. After 1566 we find him in Graz as director of music to one of the Austrian archdukes. He probably remained there to the time of his death in 1575, possibly with occasional visits to other courts in southern Germany and Austria. Among his extant compositions, in addition to the present collection and the one mentioned in note 2, are a book of madrigals à 5 (1564); a book of motets (1567); and a book of masses (1573). The book here transcribed appeared after the composer's death with the following title³:

TOCCATE ET RICERCARI
D'ORGANO. DEL EXCELLENTISSIMO
ANNIBALE PADOANO. GIA ORGANISTA DELLA
SERENISSIMA SIGNORIA DI VENETIA
Nouamente Stampate, & date in Luce.

IN VENETIA
Appresso Angelo Gardano.
M. D.C IIII

1. G. del Valle de Paz, *Annibale Padovano nella storia della musica del cinquecento ...* (Torino: Fratelli Bocca, 1933).

2. Annibale Padovano, *Ricercari*, edited by N. Pierront and J. P. Hennebains (Paris: Edition de l'Oiseau Lyre, 1934).

3. The only surviving copy is held by the Staats- und Stadtbibliothek in Augsburg. The editor expresses his thanks to this library for putting a film of the book at his disposal (through the good offices of the Music Library at Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind., and the Deutsches Musikgeschichtliches Archiv in Kassel).

1. Toccata del Primo Tono

Annibale Padovano

The first system of musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle in bass clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The music begins with a half note G4 in the treble and a half note B3 in the bass. The middle staff features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the bottom staff has a simple bass line.

The second system continues the piece. The top staff has a half note G4, followed by a whole note chord of G4-B4-D5. The middle staff continues with eighth notes, and the bottom staff has a half note G3, followed by a whole note chord of G3-B3-D4.

The third system features a more complex texture. The top staff has a whole note chord of G4-B4-D5. The middle staff has a continuous eighth-note pattern. The bottom staff has a half note G3, followed by a whole note chord of G3-B3-D4.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The top staff has a whole note chord of G4-B4-D5. The middle staff continues with eighth notes. The bottom staff has a half note G3, followed by a whole note chord of G3-B3-D4.