# A COLLECTION OF FAVOURITE SONGS

B

GERMANERATO,

THE

OR

## TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH,

#### WITH THEIR ORIGINAL MUSIC,

# THE SECONDEDITION.



# BERLIN,

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### 1798.

# TO THE DUTCHESS OF YORK.

Madam.

The notice with which you honour'd the German Erato on its first appearance, was so highly flattering, that I beg to be allowed to inscribe to your royal highnefs the present improved edition, in token of gratitude as well as of respect; and I have the honour to be,

# Madam,

Your royal highness's most obedient and obliged humble Servant

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# Berlin, 5. Dec. 1798.

THE TRANSLATOR.

### ADVERTISEMENT.

It has always been lamented by the lovers of poetry, that masters of the greatest eminence do not often shew equal ability in the choice of the verses they set to music, or rather, that they are commonly obliged to set such pieces as are put into their

hands. Several of the following songs come under the above description; their chief merit consisting in the happy manner in which the musical part has been executed: and though occasional liberty has been taken in their version, yet they cannot be expected to have much the air of original compositions. This difficulty the translator has thought necefsary to premise in order to soften the severity of criticism: Should such, however, in this collection, as admitted of a more literal translation, appear to disadvantage in their English drefs, the fault, he must confefs, will be entirely his own.





Holy Nature, heav'nly fair, Lead me with thy parent care; In thy footsteps let me tread, As a willing child is led.

When, with care and grief opprest, Soft I sink me on thy breast; On thy peaceful bosom laid, Grief shall cease, nor care invade.

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2.

3.

O congenial pow'r divine, All my votive soul is thine! Lead me with thy parent care, Holy Nature, heav'ly fair!

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Strew the way with fairest flow'rs,
Ev'ry ill forgetting;
Swiftly fly the envious hours,
Quick our sun is setting!
Daphnis now in frolick dance,
Sports with care unclouded;
Yet, ere morning's dawn advance,
See the stripling shrowded!

#### 3.

7

Let not Philomel's soft strain

Trill neglected numbers,

Nor the hum of bees in vain Lull to soothing slumbers.

Snatch, as long as fortune smiles,

Love and drinking pleasures;

Ruthless death no art beguiles,

Soon he steals our treasures!

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See, in Hymen's joyous band Blushing Phoebe plighting; See, ere ev'ning's dews expand, Death her eyes benighting! Give then grief and moping care To the breeze that passes; 'Neath this beechen grove so fair Quaff the jingling glasses! Oér the dark and silent grave,
Where his prey repofes,
Vain their wings the Zephyrs wave,
Scatt'ring breath of roses;
Vain the glafses tinkling sound,
Death's dull ear invading;
Vain the frolic dance around,
Deftest measures treading!





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Each fairer virtue calls its own.

- 'Tis beauty's task, soft smiles bestowing, Mani Man To share and soothe the lover's moan.
- Hail sacred love, thro' heav'n and earth! Both. Both. Hail sacred flame that gave us birth !

The soul in willing boudage leads: And while to peace each trouble smiling, Its potent sway all nature pleads. Nor ought can dearer raptures prove, Than two fond hearts that truly love. Love and truth, and truth and love. Emulate the joys above!

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 By moon-light's softest lustre With Laura o'er the green,
 I stray'd, and busy fancy, Still paints the tender scene.

#### 2.

Soon breath'd the Zephyr warmer As hand in hand we came; And soon a gentle tremor Seiz'd all my troubled frame.

#### 5.

My Laura's eye reflected Mild Cynthia's silver ray; And on her lip it trembled, And shed a sweeter day. 4. A tear of love quick starting, Fell glist'ning from my eye; And tender sighs half stifled, To Laura softly fly.

#### 5.

All silent was the maiden, A tear bedimm'd her sight; The moon the tear illumin'd, I mark'd its pearly light.

#### **6**.

Nor dreamt my gentle Laura Her eye that tear betray'd: The drop still paly glimmer'd

As down her cheek it stray'd.

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- 7.

The landscape faded round me, And vanish'd from my view: Ah, surely shall I never Such tender joys renew!



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Chor.









1.

To Bacchus, dear Bacchus, an altar I'll raise; And, full of his presence, grow wild in his praife. Approach, thirsty topers, no ills shall anoy, But wine flow in plenty, and plenty of joy. VVe'll drain the bowl empty and drink away care. If endlefs such pleasures, how happy it were!

And Venus, bright goddefs, the incense shall share, And bumpers be quaff'd to the health of each fair. In loves happy triumph each beauty shall shine, And heighten the joys of the juice of the vine. We'll drink, and we'll love, and we'll laugh away care. If endlefs such pleasures, how happy it were!

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1. Within these sacred bowers, The wretch shall find repose. No gloomy vengeance lowers; Soft pity heals his woes: While friendship's hand his steps shall stay, And hope shall point to brighter day.

1.

Here, far from noise and folly, Fraternal love presides; And sweetest melancholy A hallow'd guell resides. If scenes like thefe thy heart can share, Then bide a welcome pilgrim here.

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A prey to tender anguish, · Of ev'ry joy bereav'd, How oft I sigh and languish!

How oft by hope deceiv'd! Still wishing, still desiring, To blifs in vain aspiring,

> A thousand tears I shed, In nightly tribute sped.

And love and fame betraying, And friends no longer true; No smiles my face arraying, No heart so fraught with woe! So pals'd my life's sad morning: Young joys no more returning! Alas, now all around, Is dark and cheerlefs found?

Ah, why did nature give me A heart so soft and true; A heart to pain and grieve me, At ills that others rue? At other's ills thus wailing, And inward griefs alsailing, With double auguish franght, To throb each pulle is taught.

#### 4.

Erelong perchance my sorrow Shall find its welcome close, Nor distant far the morrow "That brings the wish'd repose: When death, with kind embracing, Each bitter anguish chasing, Shall mark my peaceful doom, Beneath the silent tomb.

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#### 5.

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Then cease, my heart, to languish,

And cease to flow, my tears; Though nought be here but anguish, The grave shall end my cares. On earth's soft lap reposing, Life's idle pageant closing, No more shall grief assail, Nor sorrow longer wail.

C 2















To sing of loves passion, I'm call'd by my fair. Yet when the fond heart is bewilder'd in joy, Ah! who would not sing when commanded by her? And loves softest raptures the moments employ,

Yet loves softest languish Creates but new anguish, So fain, gentle maid, the foud theme I'd forbear. So fain, gentle maid, the foud theme I'd forbear. A smile can give life, and a frown can destroy!

#### 2.

5.

Young Cupid triumphant, in mischief well skill'd Subdues mighty princes and keeps the fair field. Ambition declining,

To beauty refigning, Each chief for the myrtle the laurel shall yield.

#### 5.

Should jealousy's torments embitter the woe That arises from absence, what anguish shall flow! What moaning and sighing! Despairing and dying! Ah! who shall describe what the lover shall know?

The coward grows daring and pants for the fray: The miser free-hearted, the splenetic gay; Grave wisdom admiring, Grows mad with desiring; The bachelor sighs for the fair till he's gray. 6.

To urge the soft subject, then cease, gentle fair. Fin ill at such numbers, nor further shall dare; For loves softest languish Creates but new anguish, And hence, dearest maid; the fond theme I forbear.



Happy destiny!

2. Peggy, little charmer, Is my best lov'd maid; Should ill fortune harm her, Sure I'd weep me dead. Other maids exclling She alone has dwelling In my inmost breast: There she reigns confess'd.

4. Yes, the little smiler Holds my heart alone. Nor will I beguile her When I'm older grown Yes, her beauttes move me; Next to Heav'n above nie, Nothing have I here Half as she so deart

**6**. Happy-fated flower, 'Ere to her you fly, Blossom near my bower, 'Neath the vernal sky. Soon, thy joy increasing, Peggy's bosom gracing, Kisses wait for thee. One, perchauce for me!





Beneath a poplar's friendly shadow, Beside a rushy meer, Young Fanny sat, all blithe and blooming, And knit, unvext with care. And while she knit, she sung so sweet, A ballad I shall ne'er forget.

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When idly o'er the meadow wand'ring, To lure the finny train; Conceal'd beneath the alder bushes, I heard dear Fanny's strain. My uselefs angle down I laid, And soft approach'd the blushing maid.

Why all alone? — shall I intrude me?"
"Fresh breathes the Zephyr here"
"Good swain," she cries, "I've just been straying"
"Along this glassy meer."
"But see, I cried, the sun's beams darting, Acrofs the quiv'ring spray;
They paint thy lip and tinge thy dimples With purest, sweetest ray.
"But now the sun ascends the sky"
"And to the cooling shade I fly."

5. We trembled like two aspen branches, And neither knew for why, We talk'd of corn and kine and weather; Then ceas'd, then 'gan to sigh. And list'ned to the lapwing's strain, And heard the bittern 'loud complain. 23

#### 6. Now bolder grown, her work I tangled; I stole her yarn away: And she, with knitting-pins assailing, Provok'd the am'rous fray; 'Till quite incens'd, in playful spite, She shew'd her teeth and vow'd she'd bite.

But see, I cried, the sun's beams darting, Acrofs the quiv'ring spray; They paint thy lip and tinge thy dimples With purest, sweetest ray. O'er ev'ry charm his glories beam, As when he gilds the placid stream. 8. She smil'd; — her bosom gently flutter'd, And heav'd a stifled sigh; I stole a kifs, and sware to love her: She blush'd in kind reply. And when I break my plighted vow. The conscious stream shall cease to flow!

I sat me down, and soon soft tremors My listlefs limbs invade, And Fanny's foot so neat and shapely, By mine was closely laid; And stretch'd upon the flow'ry green, Her taper ancle too was seen.



8

Unnotic'd in the lonely mead, A violet rear'd its modest head; A sweet and lovely flower! A blooming maid came gadding by, With vacant heart and gladsome eye, And tript, and tript, with sportive careless tread. "Ah!" thought the violet, "had I now,"
"The roses matchlefs form and glow;"
"Tho' transient were the power;"
"To be but pluckt by that sweet maid,"
"And on her virgin bosom laid;"
"Blest fate! blest fate! what more could heav'n bestow?"

Along the lovely maiden past, Nor on the ground a look she cast, But trod the haplefs flower: It sunk, it died, and yet was gay: "And let me die," 'twas heard to say, "If 'meath, if 'neath her feet, I breathe my last!"

<sup>5.</sup> 



And near the brook; -- the brook is small, Yet clear its bubbling fountains fall!

A spreading beech uprears its head, And half conceals the humble shed: From chilling winds a safe retreat; A refuge from the noon-tide heat! So sweetly tells her plaintive tale, That off the passing rustics stray, With loit'ring step to catch the lay!

4. Sweet blue-ey'd maid with locks so fair. My heart's dear pride, my fondest care! I hie me home; — the storm doth low'r. Come share, sweet maid, my shelt'ring bow'r!

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Know'st thou the land, where citrons scent the gale. Where glows the orange in the golden vale, Where softer breezes fan the azure skies, Where myrtles spring and prouder laurels rise? Say, know'st thou well? 27

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'Tis there, tis there, Our wand'ring steps, my faithful love, must tend.

#### 2.

Know'st thou the pile, the colonade sustains, Its splendid chambers and its rich domains, Where breathing statues stand in bright array, And seem, "what ails thee, haplefs maid," to say? Say, know'st thou well?

'Tis there, 'tis there, My gentle guide, our wand'ring steps must tend,

#### 5.

Know'st thou the mount, where clouds obscure the day Where scarce the mule can trace his misty way; Where lurks the dragon and her scaly brood; And broken rocks oppose the headlong flood? Say, know'st thou well? 'Tis there, 'tis there, Our way must lead; ah, thither let us tend!



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See vernal joys alluring; Soft joys, I fain won'd own! But ah, no Spring can charm me; — My love, alas! is flown!

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Dear task! 'twas once my own! Ah then, it deck'd her bosom:---But now, alas! she's flown!-

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#### 3.

In vain the leafy bower Now spreads its cooling shade; —
In vain the moon's soft lusire Invites me o'er the mead.
Ah! once the bow'r could charm me; —
Its sweets I once could own!
There first I saw and lov'd her: —
But now, alas! she's flown!









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Joy, and Love, awake the pæan! Lead the dance, the chorus lead; May bedecks the conscious bower, Flora paints the verdant mead. Deep in yon sequester'd valley, Am'rous warblings glad the grove; There as ev'ning's shade advances, Meets the youth his plighted love.

2.

Gay assembly, ball and op'ra, Charm the city youth and maid; Shepherds court the vernal Zephyrs; Shepherds haunt the bow'ry shade. Crown the cup with new-blown roses, List as waves the whisp'ring pine; Seek the woodland's inmost shelter, Near the molsy fount recline.

3.

Crop the flow'ret, cull the posy, Garlands wreathe for beauty's hair; Dance where hawthorns scatter odours, Hail the twilight, pair and pair. Now the nectar'd kifs be rifled!

Now attun'd the raptur'd lay! Gayly scize life's fleeting treasures; May and youth soon haste away!

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Χ. E N -\* ; . . . . . Page. Loly Nature, heav'nly fair, (Süsse heilige Natur) from Stolberg. **V.** Strew the way with fairest flow'rs, " (Rosen auf den Weg gestreut) Hölty. VI. The manly heart with love o'erflowing, (Bey Männern, welche Liebe fühlen) VIII. By moon - light's softest lustre, (Ich ging im Mondenschimmer) Stolberg. XII. To Bacchus, dear Bacchus, etc. (Dem Gotte der Reben etc.) XIII. Within these sacred howers. (To diacan hailmon Hallon)

	(In acesen neugen IIauten)	XVI.
A prey to tender anguish,	(Ich habe viel gelitten)	Schubart. XVIII.
Blossom, loveliest flower,	2) (Bune, ueves Veuchen)	Overbeck. XX.
To sing of loves passion, etc.	(Ein Liedchen von Liebe etc.)	XXI.
Beneath a poplar's friendly shadow,	(Beschattet von der Pappelweide)	Vofs. XXIII.
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Know'st thou the land, etc.	(Kennst du das Land etc.)	Göthe. XXVI.
Now milder blows the Zephyr,	(Schon wehren milde Weste)	Müchler, XXVIII.
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