

Jason V. Barabba

Lettere da Triggiano

For Actor, Two Sopranos,
Two Mezzo-Sopranos, Flute, Clarinet
Violin, Cello and Percussion

SCORE EXCERPT

Triggiano 11/12 1950

Carissima figlia e sorella includo 2 dollari

Proprio questo momento che giunta la tua tanto desiderata lettera onde portava la data del 4-12-50, noi ci rallegriamo che la godete di ottima salute compresi i cari figli e bisbeti e Vinango, così ti auguro anche di noi tutti di famiglia.

Cara sorella prima di tutto ti faccio noto che quando scrivi ti capisco bene, non ti

Jason V. Barabba

Lettere da Triggiano

For Actor, Two Sopranos, Two Mezzo-Sopranos, Flute, Clarinet, Violin, Cello and Percussion

Texts taken from unpublished personal correspondence

Duration Approximately 25-30 minutes

Performance Notes:

Performance notes are incorporated into the score itself for now.

Thanks!

Special thank you to Patrizia Zambetta for her translation work on these letters.

Lettere da Triggiano will be registered with ASCAP

©2015 – Jason V. Barabba

jason@jasonbarabba.com

www.jasonbarabba.com

For the “arguing in Italian” section starting on or around measure 120. Singers are free to use their own words if they prefer, or any parts of these suggested texts.

Three generic curses:

Vai a farti fottere, puttana!
Brutto figlio di puttana bastardo.
Chiudi il becco

From Wikipedia

Ah, zoccaro, frasca, merduso, piscialetto, sauteriello de zimmaro, pettola a culo, chiappo de 'mpiso, mulo canzirro! ente, ca pure le pulece hanno la tosse! va', che te venga cionchia, che mammata ne senta la mala nuova, che non ce vide lo primmo de maggio! Va', che te sia data lanzata catalana o che te sia dato stoccata co na funa, che non se perda lo sango, o che te vangano mille malanne, co l'avanzo e priesa e vento alla vela, che se ne perda la semmenta, guzzo, guitto, figlio de 'ngabellata, mariuolo!

This tirade could be translated like this:

Ah, good for nothing, feather, full of shit, bedpisser, jack of the harpsichord, shirt on the arse, loop of the hanged, hard-headed mule! Look, now also lice cough loudly! Go, that palsy get you, that your mom get the bad news, that you cannot see the first of May. Go, that a Catalan spear pass through you, that a rope be tied around your neck, so that your blood won't be lost, that one thousand illnesses, and someone more, befall you, coming in full wind; that your name be lost, brigand, penniless, son of a whore, thief."

Messing with google translate:

Potential back-and-forth argument for two singers to perform as mini-dramas

A: Chi ha preso tutto il formaggio Elvira inviato?
B: Lo sai che non sono stato io, puttana.
A: non ho preso il formaggio maledetta.
B: Beh, io maledettamente bene non ho avuto niente di tutto ciò.
A: Ho avuto abbastanza di te rubare tutti i formaggi, cagna.
B: Hai sempre preso più di quanto dovrebbe, tu vacca avido.
A: Che cosa circa la nostra cara mamma? Non dovrebbe farlo?

Some small bits inspired by the existing texts:

“Benedetto” fratello, tu non sei venuto a visitare nostro fratello in ospedale, possa tu non trovare pace in tutta la tua vita. Possa il Signore punirti per tutto quello che stai facendo alla nostra cara mamma....possa lui farti piangere e negarti pace in questa vita e nell'aldila'

Tu non meriti tutte le magliette che Elvira ha mandato. Tuo marito se ne mette una e toglie l'altra. Noi non ti dobbiamo niente, la tua arroganza e' irrispettosa nei confronti della nostra cara mamma

for Dad

Lettere da Triggiano

Score in C

Jason V. Barabba
Summer 2015

Moderato (Approx. ♩=100)

Actor || 4/4 "Carissima Figlia e Sorella"

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Mezzo-soprano 1

Mezzo-soprano 2

Moderato (Approx. ♩=100)

Flute

Clarinet in B♭

Drums

Crotales

Violin

Violoncello

poco accel. Approx. ♩=120

10

Actor

S. I

S. 2

M-S. I

M-S. 2

mf *<ff* *mf* *<ff* *p* *<mf*

Ca Ca Ca ri

mf *<ff* *p* *<mf*

Ca Ca ri

mf *<ff* *mf* *p* *<mf*

Ca Ca ri - ssi - ma Ca - ri

mf *<ff* *mf*

Ca Ca ri - ssi - ma 'ri

poco accel. Approx. ♩=120

Fl.

Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

f *p* *f* *f* *f* *p*

f *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

molto vib. senza vib. molto vib. vib. ord.
f *p* *f* *p* *f*

senza vib. molto vib. senza vib.
p *f* *p*

18

A

Actor

S. 1

S. 2

M-S. 1

M-S. 2

ssi - ma ca - ri - ssi - ma

ssi - ma ca - ri - ssi - ma

ssi - ma ca - ri - ssi - ma

ssi - ma ca - ri - ssi - ma

mp *fp* *mf* *mp* *p*

mp *fp* *mf* *mp* *p*

mp *fp* *mf* *mp* *p*

mp *fp* *mf* *mp* *p*

A

Fl.

Cl.

n *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Drums

f

Vln.

Vc.

*RP

mp
*Regular bow pressure

Actor

S. 1

S. 2

M-S. 1

M-S. 2

Fl.

Cl.

Crot.

Vln.

Vc.

mf

mf

mf

mf

(all bowed)

mf

senza vib.

p legato

* OP

RP

* Bow Over Pressure

The musical score for page 23 consists of several parts:

- Actor:** A single staff with a double bar line at the beginning, indicating a silent role.
- S. 1 (Soprano 1):** A vocal line starting with a whole note 'fi' followed by rests. Dynamics include *mf*.
- S. 2 (Soprano 2):** A vocal line with triplets of eighth notes. Lyrics: 'fi-glia e so-rre - la'. Dynamics include *mf*.
- M-S. 1 (Mezzo-Soprano 1):** A vocal line with triplets of eighth notes. Lyrics: 'fi-glia e so-rre - la fi-glia e so-rre'. Dynamics include *mf*.
- M-S. 2 (Mezzo-Soprano 2):** A vocal line with triplets of eighth notes. Lyrics: 'fi-glia e so-rre - la'. Dynamics include *mf*.
- Fl. (Flute):** An instrumental line with triplets of eighth notes.
- Cl. (Clarinet):** An instrumental line with triplets of eighth notes.
- Crot. (Crotchet):** An instrumental line with a whole note, marked '(all bowed)' and *mf*.
- Vln. (Violin):** An instrumental line with triplets of eighth notes, marked 'senza vib.' and *p legato*.
- Vc. (Violoncello):** An instrumental line with triplets of eighth notes, marked with performance boxes for 'OP' and 'RP'.

Actor

S. 1

f *gliss.*

- gli - a - - - - - so - - -

S. 2

f *gliss.*

fi-glia e so-rre - la fi-glia e so-rre - la fi-glia e so-rre - la

M-S. 1

- la fi-glia e so-rre - la fi-glia e so-rre - la fi-glia e so-rre

M-S. 2

fi-glia e so-rre - la fi-glia e so-rre - la fi-glia e so-rre - la

Fl.

f *mf*

Cl.

f *mf*

Crot.

Wood Blocks

Vln.

gliss.

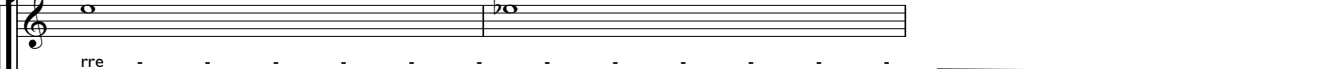
Vc.

gliss. *mf*

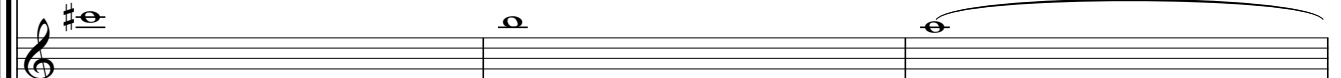
Actor



Ossia



S. 1



S. 2



M-S. 1



M-S. 2



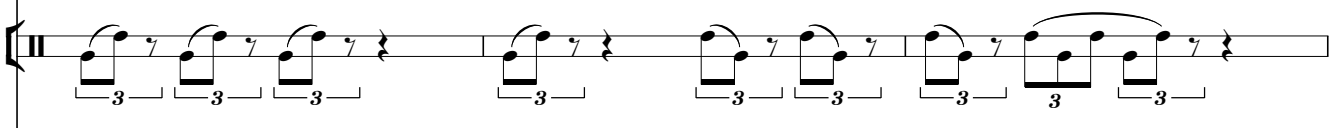
Fl.



Cl.



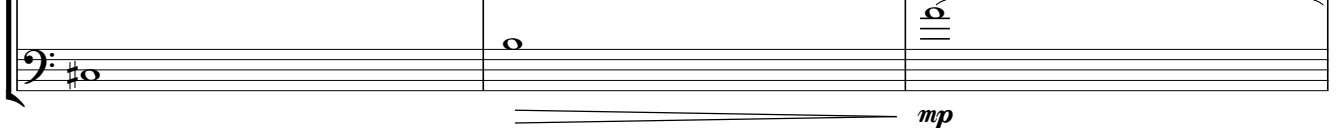
W. Bl.



Vln.



Vc.



mp

X = the start of an unmetered section of music. It is the cancellation of the current time signature

Actor

S. 1

S. 2

M-S. 1

M-S. 2

Fl.

Cl.

Drums

W. Bl.

Vln.

Vc.

mp

fi glia e so rre - la

fi glia e so rre - la

- la fi glia e so rre - la fi glia e so rre - la

fi glia e so rre - la fi glia e so rre - la

vib. ord.

gliss.

n

gliss.

n

1 10"

2

3 15"

36

Actor

I am your unforgettable sister-in-law, Carmela.

Dearest sister and daughter

S. 1

Carissima figlia e sorella

S. 2

Carissima figlia e sorella

M-S. 1

Carissima figlia e sorella

M2

Start metronome running at 120 bpm

* Metronome should make a click sound, not a beep.

Carissima figlia e sorella

Poco a poco, steadily dial the metronome down to slower speeds. Almost imperceptibly.

Fl.

Cl.

Wood Block

Assuming metronome (used by mezzo-soprano 2) is straight eighths, play triplets against it on a woodblock as close to metronome sound as possible. As the metronome slows it is expected and desired that this pattern is not perfectly executed.

Vln.

Natural Harmonics
Glissandi on the E string
Irregular Rythm,
Varying ranges.

Vc.

39

Actor

With joy I'm replying to your precious mail, happy that you and the whole family are enjoying excellent health, as is our family. Dear sister, first of all I thank you with all my heart for the greetings sent in the letter with the two dollars.

S.



(start when actor says "whole family" cut off when conductor indicates the next section)

S2



Recevi tanti saluti dale care sorelle e cognate baci dalle care nipote nina di Bari, e datta alle luce una bella bambina

(start when actor says "whole family," cut off when conductor indicates the next section)

M1



Cara sorella, mi rallegrò che le cose che ti abbiamo mandato con gli amici Costanza ti anno piaciute , ma pero cara vedi che noi ti mandammo amate anche una forma di formaggio, te la data?

(start when actor says "two dollars")

M2



Dearest sister, I write you this letter in pain that I'm still not receiving your news directly

Fl.



Cl.



Vln.



Vcl.



Natural Harmonics glissandi on the C string
Irregular Rythm, Varying ranges.

5

|| non ti posso descrivere

S1



S2



M1



I cannot describe

M2



Carissima figlia e sorella



Carissima figlia e sorella



Dearest Sister & Daughter

Metronome should be down to under 60bpm by now

Fl.



Cl.



Vln.



Slow the glissandi down

Vcl.



Slow the glissandi down

Wait a few beats after the string harmonics start holding in place

Our friend Nicolina wrote that our dear brother

Giovanni is in bad condition.



6

S1



S2



M1



Dearest sister

M2



Final click of the metronome on downbeat of this measure, then turn off.

Fl.



Cl.



Wood Block



Hit one final time after last click of the metronome. As quickly after as possible. Should be two separate sounds, not overlapping.

Vln.



End glissandi on the indicated notes and hold.

15^{ma}



Vcl.



B

Allegro (Approx ♩=118)

43

Actor

S. 1

S. 2

M-S. 1

M-S. 2

mp

f

mp

3

ca-ra so-re - lla mi ra-

Allegro (Approx ♩=118)

B

Fl.

mf

3

Cl.

mf

Drums

Drums

mf

Vln.

fp

fff

gliss.

Vc.

fp

fff

gliss.



49

Dearest daughter and sister, with joy I'm

Actor

S. 1

S. 2

M-S. 1

M-S. 2

lle - - gro che le co - se che ti a - bbia - mo man - da -

Fl.

Cl.

Drums

Crot.

Vln.

Vc.

mf

3

f

3


fp

gliss.

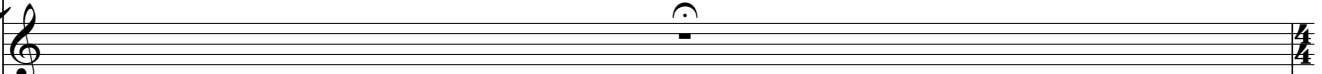
fp

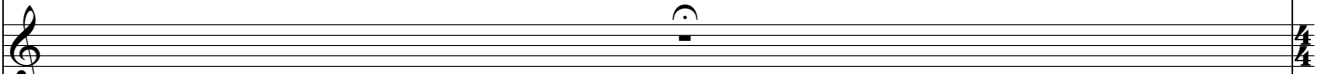
gliss.

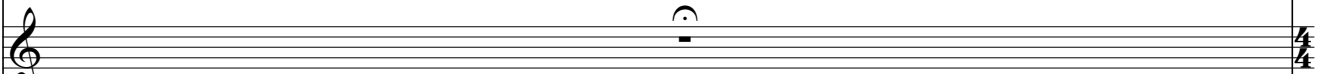


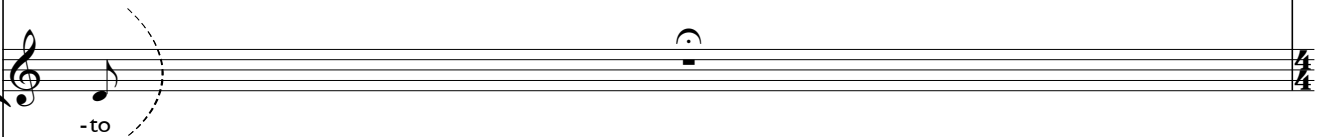
51
 Actor  replying to your precious letter, happy that your whole family is enjoying excellent health, and to let you know that the same is true for all our family as well. Dear sister, first of all I thank you with all my heart for the greetings sent in the letter with the two dollars


$\frac{4}{4}$

S. 1 

S. 2 

M-S. 1 

M-S. 2 
 -to

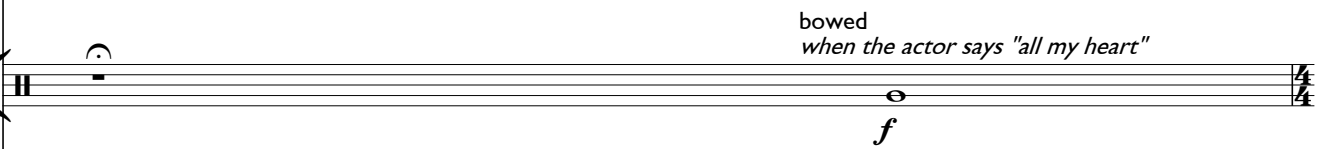
Fl. 
p 3

Repeat boxed figure as indicated.
 Lively tempo.
 Players may choose to vary octave placement while keeping the same notes.
 Do not attempt to match conductor's beat when meter returns.
 Keep your own time.

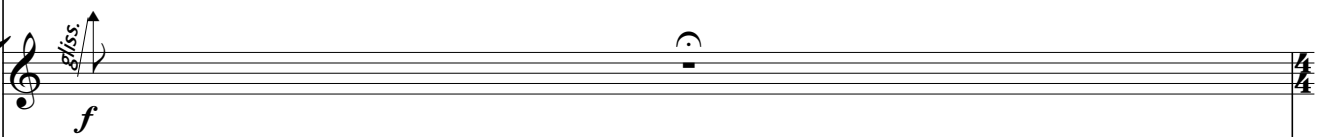
$\frac{4}{4}$

Cl. 
p

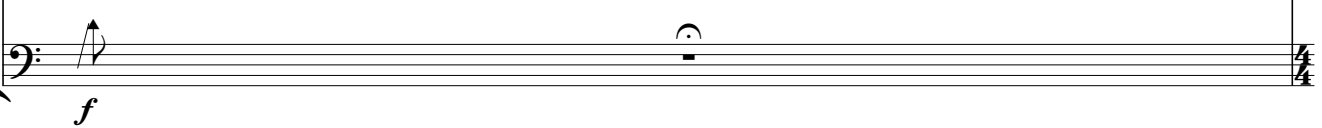
$\frac{4}{4}$

Crot. 
 bowed
 when the actor says "all my heart"
f

$\frac{4}{4}$

Vln. 
f

$\frac{4}{4}$

Vc. 
f

$\frac{4}{4}$

Allegro (Approx ♩=118)

52

Actor

S. 1

S. 2

M-S. 1

M-S. 2

Fl

Allegro (Approx ♩=118)

Crot.

Vln.

Vc.

56

Actor peace and blessings to the entire family. --- Our dear mama is reciting the Holy Novena to the Child Jesus from her bed for you .

S. 1

S. 2

M-S. 1

M-S. 2

Fl

End Repeated figure

Crot. (Bowed) Right after actor says "holy novena" *mf*

Vln.

Vc. Vib. ord. *p*