I. BASIC MUSICAL TERMS AND EXPRESSIONS IN ENGLISH

4 spaces and 5 lines in staff notation A natural absolute name absolute pitch / perfect pitch absolute sol-fa solmization / fixed do accelerating trill accent displacement / syncopation accidental accompanied song acoustic overtone series adjacent space alteration altered chord articulation / phasing ascending phase atonal / keyless attack augmented chord augmented interval bar bar-line beat beat / metric unit binary form black key blow breath breath mark bridge by ear / by rote by heart

cadential gesture cantus firmus / parent tone chain of fifth chest chest voice choral arrangement chord inversion / harmonic inversion chord of the second / four-two chord chord set chord turn / harmonic progression chord, harmony chordal outline chorus / refrain chromatic chord chromatically raised note circular breathing clef climax / peak close harmony clusters of adjacent notes coda / outro common chord complementary interval complete close compound form conclusion conducting pattern conducting score consecutive fifths / parallel fifths consecutive intervals consonance consonant chord contrary motion

conventional notation

crab canon

crochet / quarter rest

declamation

decorate / ornament / figure

descending passage

descending phase

development

diaphragm

diatonic chord

diminish

diminished chord

dynamic gradation

dissonant chord

distant modulation

distant tonal relations

do-centred pentatonic

dominant chord

dominant degree

dominant of the dominant / secondary dominant / exchange dominant

dominant-tonic progression

double flat

double sharp

dress rehearsal

duration

early music ensemble

echo effects

enharmonic circle of fifth

entrance

equal temperament

equal voices

excessive vibrato

exercise / practise

exhale exposition extended cadence fadeout fall in pitch fifth-change figured bass finger key / finger button first line five-tone scale flag of the note flat force of tone / volume / intensity / strength of tone foundation/basic chord four-movement symphony functional bases of chords fundamental chord fundamental note / keynote / primary note / tonic half beat half note hammers harsh head register home key / main key / basic key homophonic style humming imitative entry imitative movement implied chord inflection inhale inner part instrumental improvisation

interlude introduction / intro introductory movement inverted melody isorhythm key signature key signature keyboard genre larynx / throat leading note legato phrasing length of a note long-held pedal mark louder dynamic stress low lower lip lowering of a note main accent / primary stress main key / principal key Major major seventh mediant medieval instrument melodic line melodic resource metre / time / metric minor modal chord monodic / unison / one part monothematic sonata forms movement music desk / stand

natural

natural scale note picture note shape off beat one-part melodic dictation ordinary / simple suspension ornamented out of tune / false / off pitch overtone parallel keys passage passing chord passing notes Pentatonic tonal system perfect interval pitch polyphonic style position of a chord prevailing key principal section prosodic accent published collection quarter tone recapitulation recitativo register of the voice related chord relative sol-fa / moving do relative major repeat mark / repeat sign return modulation root position chord rounded binary form

rhythmic value scale secondary degree secondary function semibreve / whole note semitone seventh chord seventh chord seventh degree sharp sharp key sharply dotted rhythm / inverted dotting / reversed dotting / Lombard rhythm sigh motive six chord six-eight metre six-five chord six-five-three six-four chord six-four-three soft palate softly solfa term / tone syllable name song cycle sound vibration sounding of a chord spacing of a chord staff / stave staff paper standard pitch stave stem of the note strumming / plucking submediant /super dominant

subordinate part substitute chord supertonic suspended note / delayed note sustain a note third-related chord three-part form (ABA) three-movement format timbre tonal tonal deviation tonal sequence tone held over and delayed tongue traditional music form transposed edition triad triad inversion twelve-note scale unfinished composition unresolved chord upper lip urtext edition verse vocal cords vocal interpretation vocal organs vocal part / vocal line vocal type vocalization voce range voice support voiced consonant

vowel

weak cadence

whole-tone scale

a capellaunaccompaniedaccelerando(accel.)gradually getting fasteraccentod:accentod:emphasisedad libitum(ad lib.)at choice; freelyadagietorather slowadagioadagioat libitumslowlyaffettuosotenderlyagitated; restlessal, allaagitated; restlessal, allaalla brevewith a minim beatallargandofairly quickallegrettofairly quickallagronfairly quickandantewalking speedandantesoul; spiritapposgiaturaamusical ornament, a grace note which delays the next note of the melody, taking hard or more of its written time valueariosoilke an ariaassaigo the melody, taking hard or more of its written time valueariosoin a musical ornament, a grace note which delays the next note of the melody, taking hard or more of its written time valueariosoilke an ariaassaiwery allegro assai = very fastattaccago straight on conrainedcantandoin a whimsical or fanciful stylecolicicoliawith colla voce = with the voice cornorient tempo comodo = at a comfortable speedcrescendo(D.C.)from the sign decresc.)data segno(D.S.)from the beginning dela segnodolore(decresc.)gradually getting softerdoloresweetly doloismion = as sweet as possible	Musical Term	Abbreviation	English Meaning
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	dolce		
dolore grief	dolente		sad; mournful
	dolore		grief

II. BASIC MUSICAL TERMS AND EXPRESSIONS IN ITALIAN

doloroso		sorrowful
espressivo	(espr.)	expressive
facile		easy
fermata		pause
fine		the end
c ,	(0)	al fine = to the end
forte	(f)	loud; strong
fortepiano	(fp)	loud then immediately soft
fortissimo	(ff)	very loud
giocoso		playful; humerous
giusto		proper; exact
grandioso		grandly
grave		very slow; solemn
grazioso		graceful
lacrimoso		sad
largamente		broadly
larghetto		rather slow
largo		rather slow; stately
legato		smoothly
leggiero		light; nimble
lento		slow
liberamente		freely
l'istesso		the same
136330		l'istesso tempo = at the same speed
loco		at the normal pitch
lunga		long
maestoso		majestic
marcato	(marc.)	emphatic; accented
meno		less
meno		meno mosso = less rapidly
mezzoforte	(mf)	moderately loud
mezzopiano	(mp)	moderately soft
misterioso		mysterious
misura		measure
misura		alla misura = in strict time;
		senza misura = in free time
moderato		moderate speed
		allegro moderato = moderately fast
molto		very; much
morendo		dying away
mosso		movement
niente		nothing
obbligato		obligatory
ossia		alternatively
ostinato		persistent
parlando		speaking
•		
pausa		pause
perdendosi		dying away
pesante		heavy

pianissimo	(pp)	very soft
piano	(p)	soft
più		more
		più mosso = more motion
pizzicato		plucked
placido		calm; peaceful
росо		a little
		poco a poco = little by little
presto		very fast
prima		first
· · ·		prima volta = first time
quasi		as if; resembling
rallentando	(rall.)	gradually getting slower
rinforzando	(rf; rfz)	reinforcing
risoluto		bold; strong
ritardando	(rit.)	gradually getting slower
ritenuto	(rit.)	held back
ritmico		rhythmically
rubato		with some freedom of time
scherzando		playful; joking
scherzo		joke; jest
semplice		simple; plain
sempre		always
		sempre staccato = always detached
senza		without senza misura = freely (not in time)
sforzando	(sf; sfz)	forced; accented
simile	(sim.)	in the same way
smorzando	(smorz.)	dying away
soave		gentle; smooth
solenne		solemn; grave
sonoro		resonant; with rich tone
sopra		above
sostenuto		sustained
sotto		below
		sotto voce = in an undertone
staccato		detached
staccato stretto		detached quickening the speed
stretto		quickening the speed
stretto stringendo		quickening the speed gradually getting faster
stretto stringendo subito		quickening the speed gradually getting faster suddenly
stretto stringendo subito tacet		quickening the speed gradually getting faster suddenly silent
stretto stringendo subito tacet tempo		quickening the speed gradually getting faster suddenly silent speed
stretto stringendo subito tacet tempo teneramente tenuto		quickening the speed gradually getting faster suddenly silent speed tenderly held
strettostringendosubitotacettempoteneramentetenutotranquillo		quickening the speed gradually getting faster suddenly silent speed tenderly held calm
strettostringendosubitotacettempoteneramentetenutotranquillotriste		quickening the speed gradually getting faster suddenly silent speed tenderly held
strettostringendosubitotacettempoteneramentetenutotranquillo		quickening the speed gradually getting faster suddenly silent speed tenderly held calm sad; sorrowful

vivace	lively
vivo	lively
voce	voice
volta	time
	prima volta = first time