

Domenico Cimarosa

Seven Sonatas



Arranged for guitar by Rod Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa (1749 – 1801)

Domenico Cimarosa was an Italian composer of the Neapolitan School and of the Classical period. He wrote more than eighty operas, the best known of which is *Il Matrimonio Segreto* (1792) It is said only Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* (1786) was more popular: in the 19th century the French writer Stendhal claimed he'd rather be hanged than to say whether he preferred the music of Mozart or Cimarosa. Most of Cimarosa's operas are comedies. He also wrote instrumental works and church music.

Cimarosa wrote a large number of piano sonatas, which were only discovered in the 1920s. It is estimated there are over 80 single-movement works, but it is thought that many of these may in fact belong with each other as three-movement works.

I have titled the sonatas with the original key, although these are always the same as those in my arrangements.



The beginning of Andante con Moto, Sonata 79, from a manuscript held by the Royal College of Music. The title page reads

“Sonata / Per il Fortepiano / Composta / Dal Sign^{or} Cimarosa”.

It comprises four sonatas: Allegro Briosso, Largo and Allegro (grouped as #78), Andante con Moto (#79), Allegro Con Brio (#80)

Faber Guitar Series Edited by Julian Bream



Domenico Cimarosa
Three Sonatas

FABER **ff** MUSIC

It was Julian Bream who brought the attention of guitarists to these sonatas, with his publication in 1968 of his arrangements of three of them.

Title page

A puppet version of *Il matrimonio segreto* by the Sons Marionette Company

Sonata 72 - Allegro in G Minor

Arranged for guitar by Rod Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa (1749 - 1801)

Allegro

The musical score is written for guitar in G minor, 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of **Allegro**. It consists of 21 measures. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (F#), and a common time signature of 4/4. The score is divided into systems of two staves each. Measure numbers 1, 4, 7, 10, 12, 15, 18, and 21 are indicated at the beginning of their respective systems. The music features a variety of techniques: measures 1-3 show a melodic line with trills (tr) and a bass line of eighth notes; measures 4-6 feature a complex sixteenth-note pattern with triplets and fingerings (3, 4, 1, #); measures 7-9 continue the sixteenth-note pattern with trills and fingerings (3, 4, 1, #, 4, 0); measures 10-11 show a melodic line with a circled 2 and a bass line of eighth notes; measures 12-14 feature a dense sixteenth-note texture with triplets and fingerings (3, 4, 2, 3, 4, 2); measures 15-17 consist of a steady eighth-note bass line; measures 18-20 continue the sixteenth-note texture with triplets and fingerings (3, 4, 2, 3, 4, 2); and measure 21 concludes with a melodic line and a trill (tr).

24 *tr*

27

29

31 VIII ② VII V III

34 V ⑤ VI ③ V III V

37 VI VIII ② 3 4 b

40 VIII VII

43 VIII VII VIII VII VIII ③

45 ④ VI V III *tr*

Detailed description: This is a page of musical notation for Domenico Cimarosa's Sonata 72. It contains nine systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 8/8. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth, sixteenth, and thirty-second notes, as well as rests and trills. Fingerings are indicated by circled numbers 1-5. Chordal structures are labeled with Roman numerals (III, V, VI, VII, VIII). The page concludes with a trill in measure 45.

48

50

52

55

57

59

62

64

66

69

72

74

78

80

82

84

86

Sonata 33 - Moderato in G minor

Arranged for guitar by Rod Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa (1749 - 1801)

Moderato

8

4

7

9

12

15

17

19

rit.

Sonata 79 - Andante Con Moto in D Minor

Arranged for guitar by Rod Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa (1749 - 1801)

Andante con moto

1 8

4 8

7 8

10 8

13 8

16 8

19 8

22 8

6 6 6

23 V IV

25

27

29

32

33

35

37

Sonata 49 - Larghetto in C Minor

Arranged for guitar by Rod Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa (1749 - 1801)

Larghetto

The image displays a guitar arrangement of Domenico Cimarosa's Sonata 49, 'Larghetto in C Minor'. The score is presented in six systems, each consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is C minor (one flat) and the time signature is common time (C). The piece begins with a 6=D chord in the bass. The notation includes various musical elements such as slurs, accents, and specific fingering instructions (e.g., ③, ②, ④, ⑤, ①, ②, ③, ④, ⑤, ①, ②, ③, ④, ⑤). Articulation markings like 'II', 'VII', 'V', and 'IV' are placed above the notes to indicate fingerings or techniques. The piece concludes with a final chord in the bass staff.

12

8

14

8

16

8

18

8

20

8

21

8

Sonata 35 - Allegro in B Major

Arranged for guitar by Rod Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa 1749-1801

Allegro

1 3 6 8 11 14 17

II V II V IV V IV II VII

19

② II

22

④ ⑤

25

⑤

28

⑥ ⑥

31

③ ①

33

③ ①

Sonata 9 - Andante in D Minor

Arranged for guitar by Rod Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa (1749 - 1801)

Andante

The musical score is presented in six systems, each with a measure number at the beginning (8, 6, 12, 18, 23, 28). The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 8/8. The score features various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings (V, VI, III). Fingering numbers (1-5) are placed above or below notes to indicate fingerings. Some notes are circled, possibly indicating specific techniques or accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Sonata 38: Tempo di Giga in B \flat major

Arranged for guitar by Rodri Protheroe

Domenico Cimarosa (1749 - 1801)

Tempo di Giga

1

5

9

13

17

21

25

29

33

IV ③ 4 0 1 2 0 1

37

> > > a m i a m i a m i

41

a m i a m i a m i ①

45

> ② > > a m i a m i a m i p p p

49

m a i m a i m a i p p p p

53

> ② > ② m a i m a i m a i p p p

57

m a i m a i m a i ① p p p p

61

⑥