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# **THE OLD BRIDGE AT FLORENCE**

**SONG FOR VOICE AND PIANO**

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TEXT BY H.W.LONGFELLOW

## ***The Old Bridge at Florence***

Taddeo Gaddi built me. I am old,  
Five centuries old. I plant my foot of stone  
Upon the Arno, as St. Michael's own  
Was planted on the dragon. Fold by fold  
Beneath me as it struggles. I behold  
Its glistening scales. Twice hath it overthrown  
My kindred and companions. Me alone  
It moveth not, but is by me controlled,  
I can remember when the Medici  
Were driven from Florence; longer still ago  
The final wars of Ghibelline and Guelf.  
Florence adorns me with her jewelry;  
And when I think that Michael Angelo  
Hath leaned on me, I glory in myself.

Text by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

(from: Sonnets)

## **General instructions**

An accidental  $\sharp$  or  $\flat$  applies only to the note which it directly precedes;  $\natural$ s serve only as reading aids.

Accel. = accelerare

Rall. = rallentare

M. V. = molto vibrato

# The Old Bridge at Florence

Emanuela Ballio

*Cadenzando*

• = 60

Voice: *old* — *I'm* old — *I'm*

Piano: *mf* *old* — *mp* *I'm*

*ff*

• = 76-80      *rall.* — • = 60      • = 84-90

Voice: *am* — *15<sup>ma</sup>* — *8<sup>va</sup>* — *loco* — *I* — *am* — *mf* — *I* — *I* — *I'm* —

Piano: *f* — *mp* —

Voice

Piano

old Tad - deo Gad - di built

**f**

**mp**

Voice

Piano

me me

**sfz**

**mp**

Voice

Piano

**mf** I plant my foot of stone u - pon the Ar - no

(legato)

**mf**

*8vb*

*loco*

Voice

Piano

**mf** as St. Mi-chael's own was plan-ten on the dra - gon

(legato)

**mf**

*8va*

*3.2*

**1**  
**Voice**  
  
**Piano**  
*(legato)*  
**ff**

**2**  
**Voice**  
*M.V.*  
*mp* a \_\_\_\_\_  
  
**Piano**  
*p*  
**p**

**3**  
**Voice**  
*rall.*  
  
**Piano**  
*(legato)*  
**mf** **f**

**4**  
**Voice**  
*Cadenzando*  
*mf* **I**  
  
**Piano**  
*mf*  
**f** *(loco)*

Voice

hold      its gli - ste - ning      scales      Twice hath      it over - thrown      My

Piano

*loco*      *mp*      *mf*

$\bullet = 90$

Voice

kin      dred      com

Piano

*f*

Voice

pa      nions

Piano

*pp* Twice

Voice

rall.      *To speak, very expressive!*  
= Ad personam

Piano

*ppp*

hath      it over - thrown      Me alone it moveth not      but is by me the old bridge at Florence controlled

\* H : high  
M: middle  
L : low

Voice: *f* I can re - mem - ber when the Me - di - ci *ff* were  
*lento* - - - *accel.* -

Piano: *f*  
*sffz*

Voice: dri \_\_\_\_\_ ven \_\_\_\_\_ from

Piano: *f*

Voice: Flo \_\_\_\_\_ rence \_\_\_\_\_

Piano

Voice: *mf* the fi - nal wars \_\_\_\_\_ the fi - nal wars the fi - nal

Piano: *f*

*rall.* 3:2  $\bullet = 69\text{--}72$   
 Voice: wars the fi - nal wars — of Gi - bel-line and Guelf  
 Piano: *mp* *sfsz*

*accel.* 3 3 3 3  
 Voice: *f* Flo - rence a - dorns me — a - dorns me a - dorns me with her je - welry  
 Piano: *8va* *loco* *(legato)* *(loco)*

$\bullet = 69\text{--}72$  *rall.* *molto*  
 Voice: Flo — rence —  
 Piano: *ppp*

$\bullet = 60$  Ad personam  
 Voice: *H* *M* *L*  
*mf* And when I think that Michael Angelo hath  
 Piano: *15ma* *as fast as possible* *15ma*  
*pp* *f* *pp*

65 H  
 Voice: L leaned on me, on me, on me, on me,  
 Piano: (15<sup>ma</sup>) 
  
♩ = 60

Voice: I \_\_\_\_\_ glo \_\_\_\_\_ ry \_\_\_\_\_, loco I  
 Piano: ff (15<sup>ma</sup>) 8va (legato) 
♩ = 72-80

Voice: glo \_\_\_\_\_ ry ff I glo - ry  
 Piano: 5:4 5:4 ff 
ff

Voice: ff I glo - ry ff my self \_\_\_\_\_  
 Piano: pp mf ff 
ff