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## Lorenzo da Firenze [Magister Laurentius de Florentia; Ser Lorenço da Firençe; Ser Laurentius Masii, Masini]

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(d Florence, Dec 1372 or Jan 1373). Italian composer and teacher of music. He belonged to the second generation of Trecento composers. The name 'Masini' probably refers to his being the son of 'Tomaso'. Villani named him together with Bartholus de Florentia as a composer. According to Gallo he was a *canonicus* at S Lorenzo, Florence, from 1348 until his death. The madrigal *Ita se n'er'a star* was presumably composed to rival Vincenzo's setting of the same text. We may conclude from the texts of the *Antefana* and *Dolgomi a voi* that Lorenzo was active as a teacher. The partly contemporaneous activity of Lorenzo and Landini at S Lorenzo makes some kind of master–pupil relationship probable. Similarly, the texts of *Ita se n'er'a star* and *Vidi, ne l'ombra* strongly suggest that Lorenzo moved in the same circles as Landini, Andreas de Florentia and Paolo da Firenze. The fact that he died in 1372 or 1373 explains why Lorenzo, like Gherardello, composed only monophonic ballette. Apart from these, ten madrigals, one caccia, a two-voice Sanctus, the *Antefana*, and perhaps a Gloria by him have survived. The music to two ballette texts by Sacchetti has been lost. The works have come down solely in Tuscan sources, among which the Squarcialupi Codex (

*I–Fl 87*) contains all the secular compositions. Apart from texts by Sacchetti, Soldanieri and Gregorio Calonista, Lorenzo also set to music two poems by Boccaccio.

Lorenzo's style is characterized by the use of melisma, often very extensive. Imitations, the offsetting of text between the parts and part-crossing occur frequently. However, alongside these there are some older stylistic features such as parallel perfect consonances. In addition, there are French elements in Lorenzo's work: the caccia with a vocal tenor in the manner of a chace and the partly isorhythmic passages in *Povero zappator*. In the notation a change from the older Italian to the more modern French style is detectable (cf the two versions of *Ita se n'er'a star*). Besides this, the use of accidentals, often in profusion and with partly chromatic effect, is striking. In the Sanctus

there is singular use of heterophonic part-writing. Lorenzo's style emerges, in the light of all this, as highly complex, many-sided and vigorously experimental.

## Works

<b>Editions</b>
<i>Der Squarcialupi-Codex Pal.87 der Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana zu Florenz</i> , ed. J. Wolf (Lippstadt, 1955) [W]
<i>The Music of Fourteenth-century Italy</i> , ed. N. Pirrotta, CMM, viii/3 (1962) [P]
<i>Italian Secular Music</i> , ed. W.T. Marrocco, PMFC, vii (1971) [M]

## Mass movements

Sanctus, 2vv, P 1, also ed. in PMFC, xii (1976), 15, p.73
Gloria, 2vv, doubtful, P 44, also ed. in PMFC, xii (1976), 4, p.9 (see P pp.ii-iii, Layton, 364-5)

## Pedagogical works

Antefana, 1v, P xv
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## Ballette

*all monophonic*

Donne, e' fu credenza (N. Soldanieri), W 89, P 19, M 157
Non perch'i' sperì, W 81, P 20, M 157
Non so qual'i' mi volgia (G. Boccaccio), W 79, P 20, M 158
Non vedi tu, Amor (?Lorenzo), W 80, P 21, M 159
Sento d'amor la fiamma (G. Calonista), W 87, P 21, M 164

Donna, servo mi sento (F. Sacchetti), lost
Temer perché (Sacchetti), lost

## Madrigals

Come in sul fonte (Boccaccio), 2vv, W 90, P 2, M 126
Dà, dà, a chi (Soldanieri), 2vv, W 87, P 3, M 129 (see Bongj; see also Rossi)
Di riva in riva, 2vv, W 89, P 5, M 132
Dolgomi a voi, 3vv, W 92, P 6, M 134 (text inc.; ritornello 2vv only)
l' credo ch'i' dormiva, 2vv, W 94, P 10, M 139, 143 (text inc.)
Ita se n'er'a star, 2vv, W 77, P 8, M 147, 151 (2 versions in different notation: see Long, 1984, and Flisi; text also set by Vincenzo da Rimini)
Nel chiaro fiume, 2vv, W 83, P 11, M 155
Povero zappator, 2vv, W 95, P 12, M 160, 162 (T partly isorhythmic; see Fischer, 1975)
Sovra la riva (Sacchetti), 2vv, W 81, P 14, M 165
Vidi, nel l'ombra, 2vv, W 79, P 15, M 168, 171 (Senhal: 'Cosa')

## Cacce

A poste messe (Soldanieri), 3vv, W 84, P 17, M 120 (3-voice canon; ritornello for 1 or ?3vv)
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