

Isabella Leonarda's
Canon Coronato

Quest'opera mia ti dono col cor
O Madre Maria per pegno d'amor.

This work of mine I offer with my heart,
O Mother Mary, as a token of love.

Con l'alma divota che dono a te
Del canto la nota consagro al tuo piè.

With the devoted soul that I give you,
I consecrate at your feet this note in song.

L'offerta è vile, Maria, lo so,
D'affetto humile un segno sol do.*

The offering is wretched, Mary, I know.
I give but a sign of my humble affection.

* In Italian, the words "sol do" are also the solfège syllables for G-C, i.e., the last notes of the song itself.