

Editors' Preface

We have suggested ornamentation that is stylistically appropriate, as well as being vocally comfortable for most singers. The songs are perfectly acceptable without ornamentation. The printed suggestions, always in smaller sized notes, will be a starting place for some singers. There are many further possibilities. Any ornaments and melodic embellishments should be pursued with complete regard to the individual singer's voice and comfortability. In embellishing the music of this period the melody can be decorated, but not obscured in the singer's ornamentation. The aim is to create spontaneity and a spirit of improvisation in a performance.

As a general guideline, in strophic songs ornamentation is added in later verses, particularly in refrains. In *da capo* arias ornamentation is added on the repeat of the first section of music.

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