

Giuseppe Verdi (10 October 1813 – 27 January 1901) was an Italian Romantic composer, mainly of opera. He was one of the most influential composers of the 19th century. His works are frequently performed in opera houses throughout the world and, transcending the boundaries of the genre, some of his themes have long since taken root in popular culture – such as "La donna è mobile" from *Rigoletto*, "Va, pensiero" (The Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves) from *Nabucco*, "Libiamo ne' lieti calici" (The Drinking Song) from *La traviata* and the "Grand March" from *Aida*. Verdi's masterworks dominate the standard repertoire a century and a half after their composition.

Libiamo ne' lieti calici (**Brindisi** or Drinking Song) is the most famous duet from Verdi's *La traviata*, one of the most well known fragments of opera around the world, and an obligatory performance (as is this opera itself) for any great tenor.

Dr. Michael Pratt has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Croswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Mikhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

Brindisi

Duration 2:50

Drinking Song from *La Traviata*

Giuseppe Verdi
Arr. by Michael Pratt
for brass septet

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 69$

The score is for a brass septet and is written in 3/8 time with a tempo of Allegretto (♩ = 69). It consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes parts for Trumpet in B \flat 1, 2, and 3; Horn in F; Trombone; Euphonium; and Tuba. The second system includes parts for B \flat Trumpet 1, 2, and 3; Horn; Trombone; Euphonium; and Tuba. The music features a variety of dynamics, including *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score includes articulation marks such as accents and slurs, and dynamic hairpins. The key signature has two flats (B \flat major or D \flat minor).