

# Fairest Isle

John Dryden  
from *King Arthur*, Act V

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)  
ed. S. J. Pirttijarvi

1. Fair - est Isle, all isles ex - cel - ling. Seat of plea - sure and of love,  
2. Gen - tle mur - murs sweet com - plain - ing, Sighs that blow the fire of love,

6 6 6 #6 4 #

9  
Ve - nus here will choose her dwel - ling, And for - sake her Cy - prian grove.  
Soft re - pul - ses, kind dis - dain - ing, Shall be all the pains you prove.

6 6 6 #6 4 #

17  
Cu - pid from his fav' - rite na - tion, Care and en - vy will re - move;  
Ev - 'ry swain shall pay his du - ty, Grate - ful ev - 'ry Nymph shall prove;

7 6 7 6 6 #  
3 4 # 5 4

25  
Jea - lou - sy, that poi - sons pas - sion, And de - spair that dies for love.  
And as these ex - cel in beau - ty, Those shall be re - nown'd for love.

6 6 6 7 6 6 7 6 6 4