

Corelli's Maggot

dance by Cathy & John Miller (1993)

Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713)

The image shows a musical score for 'Corelli's Maggot' in 2/4 time, written in F major. The score consists of three staves of music. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 2/4 time signature. The notes are: F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4. Above the staff are chord annotations: F, C, F, C, F. The second staff starts with a measure rest labeled '6'. The notes are: F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4. Above the staff are chord annotations: C, F, G, C, F, Bb. The third staff starts with a measure rest labeled '11'. The notes are: F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4. Above the staff are chord annotations: Gm, C, F, C, F, Bb, C, F. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Arcangelo Corelli (1653-1713), a prolific composer of the Baroque era, was instrumental in establishing the preeminence of the violin. Corelli's Maggot is based on the 4th movement (Gavotte) of his Violin Sonata in F, written circa 1700. There are a good number of English Country Dance tunes with 'maggot' in the title - various interpretations of the word in this context include: a whim, an extravagant notion, an obsession, a dram, a plaything (possibly from the Italian 'maggioletta'), a hidden treasure (from the French 'mago'), even an earworm. Often Maggots were dances dedicated to a particular personage, most often from the 17th/18th centuries.