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- (1) Recit. & Aria, from the Opera  
"La Clemenza di Tito" Mozart (1756-1791)

The Aria is from Mozart's last Opera, "Titus", which contains some very beautiful music, amongst which is this Aria, with elaborate basset horn Obbligato. (The presence of the obbligato is due to Mozart's delight in the playing of the Clarinetist, Stadler; the basset horn is an almost obsolete alto clarinet, and the part to-night will be played on an ordinary clarinet)

The Aria is preceded by a recitative, accompanied on strings alone. In it, Vitellia, the "villainess" of the piece, who subsequently repents, describes her agony of mind at the fate to which her lover is to be subjected through her fault, her remorse for her crimes and her terror at the fate which she believes to be in store for her - a fate averted in the end by the clemency of the Emperor Titus.

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