

Giuseppe Amadei (Joseph Amadei), tenor

Employed at the Polish court in the period 1630-1645 (Brough).

While employed in Poland, he sang the parts of *Marte* and *Ercole* in *L'Ermiona* in Padova in 1638. According to role list, Amadei was from Bologna. Along with Sances, the composer of the music, A. performed together with singers from Rome, Mantua, and other Italian cities (Sartori 1990-1994, vol. 3: 55 (no. 9160)).

Later he was probably in Munich, from where he travelled to Dresden in the spring of 1651 (Frandsen 2004; Frandsen 2006:10). A. arrived in Copenhagen around June 1651, where he and his companion Bandini received 158 rd. to cover their travel expenses. They were not 'called in from Italy', as Thrane stated (Thrane 1906: 17), but from Munich by the late *Kapelmester* Agostino Fontana (Frandsen 2006). A. received a salary payment of 200 rd. on 16 September 1651. A. continued to Sweden, where he might have arrived in November 1652 (Sundström), but at least from March 1653 till 30 December 1653 (Kjellberg). A. returned to Copenhagen for another half year 1 May 1654 till 1 November 1654.

As A. and Bandini arrived in Copenhagen, Fontana who had arranged for them to come to Denmark had died. Fontana's successor was not appointed yet, and it is a possibility that A. and Bandini were involved in the process of finding a candidate. Bandini is known to have helped the Saxon prince Johann Georg to recruit Italian musicians during his short stay in Dresden April 1651 (Frandsen 2004; Frandsen 2006). Förster and Grandi arrived in Copenhagen a year after A. and Bandini, and it seems likely that these four musicians knew each other from their time in Poland. For a short period in 1652, Förster, Grandi, A. and Bandini once again might have stayed together at a royal court.

No sources have survived that document the actual employment of A. at the Danish court. In the payroll from September 1651, the annual salary is not mentioned. Normally, the amount was written after an ink line separating it from the musician's name. In the case of A. and Bandini, the amount is missing, which might indicate the special relation these newly arrived Italians had to the court. Another interesting thing is that the Italian singer Benedetto Bonaglia was dismissed the same day as A. and Bandini received their only salary at court. Theoretically, these three musicians could have left together in September 1651. This would be the reason why none of them left any traces in the Danish sources. Their presence elsewhere has not yet been proven.

Literature

Delma Brough: *Polish Seventeenth-Century Church Music: With Reference to the Influence of Historical, Political, and Social Conditions* (New York, 1989).

Erik Kjellberg: *Kungliga musiker i Sverige under stormaktstiden. Studier kring deras organisation, verksamheter och status ca 1620- ca 1720*, diss. (Uppsala, 1979).

Einar Sundström: "Notiser om drottning Kristinas italienska musiker", in: *Svensk Tidskrift för Musikforskning* 43, 1961, 297-309.

Mary Frandsen: "Obscure musicians: Bandini, Bandino", in: *Seventeenth-Century Music*, vol. 13, no. 2, Spring 2004, 16.

Mary Frandsen: *Crossing Confessional Boundaries. The Patronage of Italian Sacred Music in Seventeenth-Century Dresden* (Oxford, 2006).

Claudio Sartori: *I libretti italiani a stampa dalle origini al 1800*, 7. vols., Cuneo: Bertola & Locatelli Editori, 1990-1994.

Sources

Rigsarkivet (København), Rentemesterregnskaberne, Indtægts- og udgiftsregnskaber, udgifter 1651-1652, fol. 8r

ij^{ct} lwijj [158] Ennchende Rixd.
Dend 3 Junij [1651], Gifuen tvende *Musikanter* Nemblig
Joseph Amadia Tenorist och *Bandino Bandinij Altist*
som hanns Konngl. Ma: dennem Naadigst haffuer
bevilget, for huiß Regsepennge de haffuer Annwent
paa deriß Reigße her ind udj Riget.

Rigsarkivet (København), Rentemesterregnskaberne, Indtægts- og udgiftsregnskaber, udgifter 1651-1652, fol. 146r

Joseph Amadie Musicant. Aarligen
till besoldning _____ [amount missing]
ij^{ct} [200] ennchende Rdr.
Dend 16 *Septembris* Gifuen forne *Joseph Amadie*
paa Regenschab aff hans Resterende besoll-
ding, som fremdeliß med hannem schal kortes [=afdrages].

Rigsarkivet (København), Rentemesterregnskaberne, udgiftsbilag, Hofmønsterskriverens regnskaber 1628-1661, 1654-1655, fol. 10r

Hioseppe Amaedei paa
Regenschab, fra d. 1.
Maÿ 1654 ----- 200 Rixdr:
[payroll covering 1 May till 1 November 1654]