

## Non disperar, chi sa

Cleopatra's aria from the opera *Giulio Cesare* (soprano)

Text by *Nicola Francesco Haym* (1678–1729), adapted from *Giacomo Francesco Bussani* (c. 1640–1680)

Set by *George F. Händel* (1685–1759)

*Cleopatra rebukes her brother Tolomeo who has just told her that she should give up her bid for the throne and "take up the needle and thread instead of the scepter."*

### *Recitative*

**Anzi tu pur, effeminato amante,**  
[ˈan.tsi tu pu:r ef.fe.mi.'na:to a.'man.te]  
Rather you then, effeminate lover,  
(*Rather you should do that, my effeminate lover-boy,*)

**va dell'età sui primi nati albori**  
[va del.le.'ta su:i 'pri.mi 'na:ti al.'bo:ri]  
go at-your-age on-its first born dawns  
(*instead of demanding at your young age the right of the first born*)

di regno invece a coltivar gli amori!

### *Aria*

Non disperar, chi sa?  
se al regno non l'avrai,  
avrà sorte in amor.

Mirando una beltà  
in essa troverai  
a consolar un cor.

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The entire text to this title with the complete  
IPA transcription and translation is available for download.

*Thank you!*

