WHAT THEN IS LOVE BUT MOURNING?

PHILIP ROSSETER
(1575-1623)
tr. Carl Shavitz



The bass line may be doubled by a viola da gamba or cello

What then is love but mourning?
what desire but a selfe burning,
till shee that hates doth love return
thus will I mourne, thus will I sing
come away, come away my darling.

Beautie is but a blooming,
Youth in his glorie entombing;
Time hath a while which none can stay,
Then come away while thus I sing,
Come away, come away my darling.

Summer in winter fadeth,
Gloomie night heav'nly light shadeth,
Like to the morne are Venus flowers,
Such are her houres, then will I sing
Come away, come away my darling.

(Thomas Campion)

Philip Rosseter
A Booke of Ayres 1601, part 2, XX

copy source: British Library