

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

The Italian [t] should be produced dentally: lift the tongue to the top of the mouth as in English, but aspirate less on the release. Hold double consonants longer than singles; they are notated in the International Phonetic Alphabet with a [ː] (ex: vezzo = [vɛtː tso]). Lastly, Italian, like English, contains many exceptions to pronunciation norms, so careful attention should be paid to the closed versus open “o” and “e.”

Scherzano sul tuo volto le grazie vezzosette.

[skertsano sul tuo vɔlto le gratsje vɛtː tsozɛtː tɛ]

Ridano sul tuo labbro i pargoletti amori a mille.

[ridano sul tuo labː bro i pargoletː ti amori a milː lɛ]

Nel bel fuoco di quell guardo

[nɛl bɛl fwɔko di kwɛl gwardo]

Amore giunge al forte dardo care faville.

[amore dʒundʒɛ al fɔrtɛ dardo kare favilː lɛ]