
The Apologie.

wilfull Nature, correcting our Ignorance, reforming all offences, with submissiue obedience to follow the *Lawes* and *Precepts* by *Her* ordain'd, whereby we shall returne into grace and fauour with *Her*, and be graced and fauoured of all *Hers*; for she commendeth her *Founders* and *Fauourers*, and she honoureth all those who entertaine *Her*.

And now in the behalfe of my *Mother Musicke*, as a dutiful childe to condole, and (to my power) to minister a Medicine to *Her* Maladies, haue I oppos'd my selfe against a Capitall Rebelle *Common Practise*, or *Custom*, which long since seditiously resisted, & through arrogancy and ignorance hath incens'd against *Her*, and drawne away the most part of her *Children* from their due allegiance; whereby I intend either to right *Her*, by reclaiming them to the *Line* of her *Lawes* and *Precepts*, or to make knowne vnto the world all her *Spurious* and *Illegitimate Children*, that doe thus vnnaturally oppose themselues against *Her*.

For Iudges whereof on *Musickes* behalfe, I haue chosen most worthy and Iudicious *Senators* of *Her* Common-wealth, who following her *Precepts* and *Lawes* from their Infancy, haue sought (as their *Ensamples* testifie) to the vtmost of their powers, to reduce all to *Her* gouernment.

For Iudges on their side, although I could nominate many, and those *Capitall Masters* too (for so they are accounted of the *Rebellious Rowte*, whom in regard of ignorant estimation of their worth, or worthlesse estimation, I forbear to name;) yet may they be knowne to all, because they will be the first that will *oppose*, & the last and least that will, or can alleadge *Reason* for their *Tenents*; only they will vrge effeminately their owne *Will*, or passionately their owne *Fancy*, or that they haue seene the contrary, and their *Ensamples* in *Print*; but true Iudgement will be able to conuince such *Humorists*, and to sift out the *flowre of Truth* from the *bushes of Error* in this Musicall *Monarchie*. For as it is sufficient commendations for an honest *Cato*, if he be disparaged in his reputation but by some dissolute, disordered *Clodrus*, or *Cataline*: so can there be no greater approbation of any *Facultie*, or *Science* whatsoeuer, then to be oppung'd and discommended by an *Ignorant Artist*, or some raxe *Professor* of the same *Mysterie*.

And such be they (if there be any, as I doubt too many) for the most part, whome *Horace* termes *Humorous Singsters*, such as *Arcadius*