



The Definitions and Divisions of
 Moode Time, & Prolation
 in Measurable Musick.



Ensurabilis Musice is defined to be a *Harmony* of diuers sortes of *Sounds*, exprest by certaine *Characters* or *Figures* called *Notes*, describd on *Lines* & *Spaces*, different in *Name*, *Essence*, *Forme*, *Quantity*, and *Quality*, which are sung by a *Measure* of *Time*; or as⁽¹⁾ *Io: Dunstable*,⁽²⁾ the man whome *Ioan.*

Nucius in his *Poeticall Musicke* (and diuers others) affirme to be the first that inuented *Composition* saith, it hath his beginning at an *Vnite*, and increaseth vpward by two and by three infinitely, and from the highest decreaseth in like manner downe againe to an *Vnite*.

⁽¹⁾ *Io: Dunstable* *de Mensurabilis Musica* cap. I.
⁽²⁾ *Io: Nucius* *musica Poetica* cap. I.

Measure in this *Science* is a *Quantity* of the *length* and *shortnes* of *Time*, either by *Naturall sounds* pronounced by *Voice*, or by *Artificiall*, vpon *Instruments*.

Of this *Musick*, *Franchinus de Colonia* was the first *Inuentor*; and to guide our knowledge the better, obseruing the same course that *Guido Aretinus* did, (who instituted the forme of *Plaine*, or *Simple Musick*) He made *Scales* or *Tables*, in the which all things pertaining to the diuision of *Perfect* and *Imperfect Measures* are contained, and by the which we may by degree attaine to the perfection of this *Knowledge*.

The *Scales* or *Tables* (by him instituted) of diuers are vulgarly termed *Moodes*, by some of better vnderstanding, *Measures*; and consist of *Notes*, *Pauses*, *Degrees*, *Signes*, *Perfection*, and *Imperfection*.