Translation

Interpretation & Summary

Chapter 11. The play of two swords.

Because the game of two swords, one in each hand is very useful and good, this chapter lays out our discussion so that one can perform it masterfully. Finding yourself therefore at the head of the hall opposite your opponent & wanting to come to battle with them. you will have the right foot somewhat in front of the left, & the right handed sword in *Porta di Ferro Stretta* and that of the left in *Guardia di Testa*.

First step with the right foot somewhat on the diagonal & opposite their left side & similarly pass with the left, making a falso & roverso with the right sword, and with the left a falso & mandritto falling into *Porta di Ferro Stretta* with the left & with the [right] into *Guardia di Testa*, such that the right foot follows the left to the rear.

Then passing with the right foot forward, the left sword needs to make a falso & roverso & the right falso & mandritto falling into *Porta di Ferro* with the right, and cover yourself again in *Guardia di Testa* with the left.

Subsequently cross with the right foot towards their left side & then with the left forward making a falso & roverso with the right hand sword going into *Guardia di Testa* & the left [sword making] a falso & mandritto putting itself into *Porta di Ferro Stretta* such that the right leg follows the left, & thus having finished arriving at the play, arranged below are the blows that you make in the play & the return to the original position, as in the sword & buckler assalti done in the second book.

Now being near the opponent and wanting to wound them, pass your right foot forwards pushing a thrust to the face & then throwing a roverso to the leg, so that the right sword falls into *Coda Lunga Stretta*, and the left goes into *Guardia di Testa*, & immediately direct the left foot towards their right side throwing a fendente to the head with the left sword, which will fall into *Porta di Ferro Stretta* in such a way that the right foot follows the left.

Then drive both the points forward crossing the swords for your defence so that the right sword is above the left one. Subsequently pass towards their left side with the right foot throwing a mandritto to the head with the right sword into *Porta di Ferro Stretta*, & the left must be placed back into *Guardia di Testa*, the left foot behind the right, then pass with the right foot towards their right side and then also with the left and in such passing the right sword needs to make a falso & roverso, and the left falso & mandritto into *Porta di Ferro Stretta*, but the right covering you in *Guardia di Testa*, such that the right leg follows the left.

Afterwards, putting the right foot forward, drive a thrust to the face with the right hand sword. Then passing with the left foot towards their right side give them a mandritto across their right temple with the left sword such that the right leg follows the left, & the sword of the same left falls into *Porta di Ferro Stretta*, & the right sword into *Guardia di Faccia* and then pass with the right foot forwards pushing a thrust to the face accompanied by a mandritto descending into *Porta di Ferro Stretta*, & the left sword will go into *Guardia di Testa*. immediately then push also a thrust into the face with the left hand, and with your left foot forward. That done, subsequently pass with the right towards their left side throwing a mandritto with your right sword into their left temple falling into *Porta di Ferro* so that the left leg follows behind the right, & the left sword finds itself in *Guardia di Testa*.

And if it happened that the opponent were to respond with their right sword throwing a mandritto to your head, beat it with your left sword & with the right give a thrust into their chest.

But if they responded with a roverso, you would also do that with your right sword to make [their blow] futile, and with the left damage them with a mandritto to the face.

And if their aforesaid response were a mandritto with [their] left sword, cancel it with the true edge of your right hand sword, giving them a fendente to the face with your left sword.

Similarly if the opponent were to throw a roverso with the left hand, hit it

## **Entry**

1. Start at one end of the hall opposite your opponent with your right foot forward, the right sword in *Porta di Ferro Stretta* and the left sword in *Guardia di Testa*.

- Step the right foot on the diagonal towards their left side making a falso with both swords
- Pass forwards with the left foot making a roverso with the right and a mandritto with the left
- Finishing in *PdFS* with the left sword and *GdT* with the right, recovering the right foot behind you.
- ❖ Pass forward with the right foot, while doing: falso & roverso with the left, and falso & mandritto with the right, finishing in *GdT* with the left sword and *PdF* with the right
- Step towards their left side with the right foot
- Pass forwards with the left foot making a falso & roverso with the right sword and a falso & mandritto with the left sword
- Finish in *PdFS* with the left sword and *GdT* with the right, recovering the right foot behind you.

## Part 1

2. You are now ready to attack the opponent. From left sword *PdFS*, right sword *GdT*, left foot forward:

- ❖ Pass forwards pushing a thrust to the face & a roverso to the leg
- Your right sword will be in Coda Lunga Stretta, and the left sword in Guardia di Testa
- ❖ Pass to your left throwing a fendente to the head with your left sword
- Recover your right foot behind you, left sword in Porta di Ferro Stretta
- ❖ Cover yourself in *GdT* with both swords (right sword on top)
- Pass to your right throwing a mandritto to the head with the right sword
- Recover the left foot behind the right and go into GdT with the left sword, PdFS with the right sword
- Step left with the right foot making a falso with both swords
  - Pass forwards with the left foot making a roverso with the right and a mandritto with the left
  - ❖ Finishing in *PdFS* with the left sword and *GdT* with the right, recovering the right foot behind you.
- Step forwards and thrust the face with the right sword
  - Pass towards their right side with the left foot, throwing a mandritto to the temple with the left sword
  - Finishing in *PdFS* with the left sword and *GdF* with the right, recovering the right foot behind you.
  - Pass forwards with the right, making both a thrust to the face and a mandritto, finishing in PdFS with the right sword and GdT with the left.
  - Thrust the face with the left sword, passing forward with the left foot
  - Pass towards their left side throwing a mandritto to their temple with the right sword, finishing in PdFS
  - ❖ Recover the left foot behind, going into *GdT* with the left sword

From left sword *GdT*, right sword *PdFS*, right foot forward:

If the opponent throws a mandritto to your head with the right sword.

❖ Parry with the left sword in *GdT*, and thrust to the chest with your right sword.

Or if they throw a roverso with the right sword

❖ Parry in *GdT* with the right sword, passing left and throwing a mandritto to the face with your left sword.

Or if they throw a mandritto with their left sword

❖ Parry with the right sword still in *GdT* and make a fendente to the face

with the true edge of your left, pushing a thrust to their face with your right sword,

& then gathering the left foot next to the right subsequently pass with the right forwards making a falso & roverso with the right hand, & with the left sword a mezzo mandritto finishing in Guardia di Faccia.

left foot extending a thrust to the face with the left sword, & immediately directing the right foot towards their left side, reach their head with a mandritto descending into Porta di Ferro Stretta, & in such a way that the left foot will follow the right & the left sword will be found in Guardia di Testa.

Then draw the right foot behind the left, & presently pass forwards with the

Or if they throw a roverso with the left sword.

❖ Parry with your left sword and thrust the face with the right

## After that:

- Gather forwards with the left foot,
- ❖ Step forward with the right foot making a falso & roverso with the right sword, & a mezzo mandritto into Guardia di Faccia with the left sword.
- ❖ Gather back with the right foot
- ❖ Step forwards with the left foot, extending a thrust to the face with the left sword, right sword in GdT
- ❖ Pass towards their left side with the right foot, making a mandritto into PdFS with the right sword
- Recover the left foot behind you, finishing in *GdT* with the left sword

Having presented the play, & wanting to return in an graceful manner to the end of the hall from whence you came in the first part, throw the right foot backwards making a falso & roverso with the right sword going into Guardia di Testa, & with the left a falso & mandritto descending into Porta di Ferro Stretta. After that likewise withdrawing the left foot backwards with another pass, making a falso & mandritto with the left sword to draw rising up with the same into Guardia di Testa, & with the right a falso & mandritto descending into *Porta di Ferro*. Then with another pass recover backwards the right foot making a falso & roverso with the right sword rising into Guardia di Testa, & with the left a falso & mandritto descending into Porta di Ferro Stretta, and thus you will have completed a good return.

From left sword GdT, right sword PdFS, right foot forward, to withdraw and return to where you started:

- ❖ Pass back with the right foot making a falso & roverso with the right sword and a falso & mandritto with the left, finishing in GdT with the right sword and *PdFS* with the left sword
- ❖ Pass back with the left foot making a falso & roverso with the left sword and a falso & mandritto with the right, finishing in GdT with the left sword and PdFS with the right sword
- ❖ Pass back with the right foot making a falso & roverso with the right sword and a falso & mandritto with the left, finishing in GdT with the right sword and *PdFS* with the left sword

You did it!