MHF 2000

The 2000 Maryland Handel Festival & Conference will take place April 29-May 7, 2000 at the University of Maryland, College Park. Handel's oratorio Susanna will be presented as a staged production by the Maryland Opera Studio on April 29, May 2 and 4, while Solomon will be performed by the University of Maryland Chorus and Smithsonian Concerto Grosso on May 7. As always, the American Handel Society and Maryland Handel Festival will collaborate on a scholarly conference, which this year brings together internationally renowned scholars from Canada, England, Germany, and the United States. Special events include the American Handel Society Lecture, to be presented on May 6 by Ruth Smith, and the pre-concert lecture on Sunday May 7, to be given by Terence Best, chief editor of the Hallische Händel-Ausgabe. Once again the conference and lodgings will be located at the Inn and Conference Center, University of Maryland University College, where the American Handel Society dinner will also take place. A schedule of events and directions to the Inn follow. Please don't forget to reserve your place(s) at the Society Dinner.

2000 MARYLAND HANDEL FESTIVAL & CONFERENCE
April 29-May 7, 2000
University of Maryland, College Park
Paul Traver, Artistic Director
Richard G. King, Associate Director
Jesse Parker, General Manager

Concerts I-III
Saturday April 29, Tuesday May 2, Thursday May 4,
7:30 PM
Susanna
An oratorio by Mr. Handel presented as a staged opera in collaboration with the Maryland Opera Studio.
Melanie Smith: Susanna, Ji-Young Park: Attendant
Yolette Smith: Joachim, Jennifer Royall: Daniel
Bryce Westervelt: First Elder, Robert Tudor: Second Elder, William Hain: Chelsias, with the Chamber Singers of the University of Maryland Chorus
Members of the University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra, Paul Traver, conductor, Leon Major, director.

continued on p. 6

HANDEL: GREAT AMONG THE NATIONS

London, the city of Handel’s maturity, hosted a multinational assembly of Handel scholars and performers at King’s College for the 1999 Handel Institute Conference. Held November 20-21, under the banner “Great Among the Nations,” the Institute brought together scholars and performers, many of whom are well known and respected for their knowledge about and experience with Handel’s life and works. The offerings included a wide-ranging series of papers and demonstrations concerning Handel’s facility at coordination, synthesis, and personalization of various eighteenth-century national styles of musical expression.

continued on p. 3
HANDEL CALENDAR

The American Handel Society welcomes news or information about events of interest to Handelians. If possible, please include an address and telephone number where readers may obtain details. Much of the information listed below has been taken from the website "Hear Handel," to the organizers of which the Newsletter is much indebted.

23RD LONDON HANDEL FESTIVAL. April 3-28, 2000. Ottone (April 3-6), The Royal College of Music Britten Theatre, Prince Consort Road, Kensington; Silla (April 11), The Concert Hall, Royal College of Music, Kensington; Brandenburg Concert 4, 5 and 6 (April 18), St George's Church, Hanover Square; Silla (April 21), St George's Church Hanover Square; Deborah (April 26), St George's Church, Hanover Square; Utrecht Te Deum, The Secular Masque by Boyce, with works by Purcell and Blow (April 28), St George's Chapel, Windsor. Details from Catherine Hodgson, Administrator, London Handel Festival. 265 Croxton Road, London SE21 8NN Tel and Fax (020) 8761 3511.

MARYLAND HANDEL FESTIVAL. April 29-May 7, 2000. Works to be performed are Susanna (staged) and Solomon. Performers include Sherri Kram, Grace Gori, Lorie Gratz, Charles Reid, David Brundage, Kenneth Slowik, University of Maryland Chorus, University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra, Smithsonian Concerto Grosso, Paul Traver, conductor. For more information or to purchase tickets call (301) 405-5568 or write to the Maryland Handel Festival Box Office, Room 2140, School of Music, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

49TH HÄNDEL-FESTSPIELE, HALLE, GERMANY. June 2-11, 2000. Works to be performed include Radamisto, Israel in Egypt, Alcina, and Agrippina, by many of the world's foremost artists. For information call the Händel-Festspiele offices at 0345-500 90 222, or fax at 0345-500 90 416.

Händel-Festspiele, GöTTINGEN, GERMANY. June 8-12, 2000. Works to be performed include Rodelinda, Concerto Köln, Nicholas McGegan, conductor; Messiah, Orchestra and Choir of the Age of Enlightenment, Nicholas McGegan, conductor; Israel in Egypt, Akademie für Alte Musik, Marcus Creed, conductor. Also Chamber and Orchestral concerts. For information, write Göttinger Händel-Gesellschaft e.V., Hainholzweg 3-5, D-37805, Göttingen.


Orlando (Sung in Swedish). March 25, 27, April 1, 4, 7, 28, May 1, 3, 8, 12, 22, 24, 26, 30, June 8. The Royal Opera House, Stockholm, Sweden. Royal Swedish Opera. Orlando: Anna Larsson/Michael Bellini; Angelica: Christina Högman/Lena Nordin; Medoro: Paula Hoffman; Dorinda: Lena Holc/Miah Persson; Zoroastro: Bjorn Blomqvist/Tord Wallström. Raymond Leppard and B. Tommy Andersson, conductors; Ann-Margret Pettersson, director; Lars-Ake, sets and costumes.


Hercules. April 6. Paleis voor Schone Kunsten, Brussels, Belgium. Hercules: Gidon Saks; Dejanira: Anne Sofie von Otter; Io: Lynne Dawson; Hyllus: Richard Croft; Libac: David Daniels. Les musiciens du Louvre, Grenoble; Marc Minkowski, conductor. Also April 8 at the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam, April 10 in Vienna, April 12 in Grenoble, France, April 15 at the Théâtre Municipal de Poissy, Poissy, France, and April 20 at the Opéra National De Lyon, Lyon.


Acis and Galatea (arr. Mozart). April 22. Freiburg, Germany.

Deborah. April 27. St George's Church, Hanover Square, London. Laurence Cummings, conductor.


Susanna. April 29, May 2, 4. Homer Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Fine Arts Building, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Solomon. May 7. Memorial Chapel, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Compiled by: Jarl Hubert and Richard G. King
Saturday afternoon, Howard Server’s paper provided a fitting introduction for the conference with a discussion of Handel’s coordination of various national styles, expanding upon Manfred Bukofzer’s treatment of the topic in Music in the Baroque Era. Konstanze Musketa and Annette Landgraf highlighted German musical traditions as exemplified in Handel’s German works and his English oratorios. Colin Timms explored Steffani’s influence upon Handel both at Hanover, and, via Keiser, at Hamburg, while Michael Talbot offered a fascinating account of the lives and works of women musicians at the Venetian Ospedale della Pietà. John Roberts closed the Saturday session with commentary on Handel’s borrowings from the original musical settings of Italian librettos adapted for London.

Ten o’clock Sunday morning found us back at King’s College, from whence we were transported to France. Graham Sadler traced various cross-references in the music of Handel and Rameau; Sarah McCleave offered ways to graphically picture the structure of dance music, using the sarabande as model; and Bruce Wood explored French influences (with recorded examples) upon John Blow (quite Handelian) and Handel (very Purcellish), and then played a series of Te Deum settings in which Purcell sounded like Blow who sounded like Handel. Graham Cummings analyzed Handel’s multi-layered response to the text “Son confusa pastarella” in Poro; Eddy Bénimédouré looked at Handel’s transformation of German and Italian musical borrowings into French style in his overtures; and Xavier Cervantes compared Handel’s Italian vocal writing with that of Italian composers living then in England and asked why Handel was rarely targeted in the satirical literature that surrounded Italian opera in London. Graydon Becks closed the conference with observations on Purcell’s influence on Croft and, indirectly, Handel.

The conference provided much food for thought. One must not omit a “tipping of the hat” to the organizers of the gathering. The social amenities were done to a “tea” (as well as a little pressed grape), and there was a wonderful dinner, during which a few local musicians did their own “personalization of various musical styles.” (You had to be there!)

A few random thoughts: it is exciting to see younger scholars trying their wings under the watchful eyes of those more experienced; it is wonderful to hear so much recorded music used to make a point (rather than the spoken word only); it is gratifying to hear so much “early” music done so well on these recordings; and it is invigorating to see people from many different countries coming together to share their knowledge, their experience, their enthusiasm for our subject, Handel and his music, which was, is, and always will be “great among the nations.”

Paul Traver

---

THE BARBER OPERA
La libertà contenta
by Agostino Steffani

La libertà contenta (Hanover, 1693) is a comedy of manners that plumbs the depths of human emotion. Among its many highlights is a nocturnal garden scene in which the principals repeatedly mistake each other (and from which Handel was to borrow for Ariodante). Steffani’s music, with its wonderful arias and breathtaking ensembles, is a seductive combination of Venetian and Parisian idioms and one of the pinnacles of late seventeenth-century bel canto style. If the libretto calls to mind that of Cosi fan tutte, the music displays an elegant refinement which, notwithstanding the difference in style, is no less reminiscent of Mozart.

La libertà contenta is to be staged at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham on 8, 10 and 12 November 2000. Recitative will be in English, everything else in Italian. The producer is Robin Tebbutt, the conductor Colin Timms. Booking opens on Monday 4 September. Tickets: £15 (full price), £10 (Friends, senior citizens, unwaged), £5 (students). Box Office Telephone: 44 (0) 121 414 7333.

The Barber Institute of Fine Arts is located at the University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT; United Kingdom.

---

NEWSLETTER
of The American Handel Society

Richard G. King, editor

School of Music,
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742, U.S.A.
Tel: (301) 405-5523
Fax: (301) 314-9504
E-mail: rk111@email.umd.edu

The Editor welcomes comments, contributions, and suggestions for future issues.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The following list, which is not intended to be comprehensive, includes items that have appeared since the last Bibliography, published in the August 1997 issue of this Newsletter. Festival reports and reviews are not included here.

Books and Dissertations


_Court and conquest: Ottoman origins and the design for Handel’s Tamerlano at the Glimmerglass Opera._ Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Museum, 1998.


Articles


Software


Compiled by Richard C. King

THE HANDEL INSTITUTE AWARDS

PERFORMANCE
Applications are invited for the Byrne Award (up to £1,000) to support performance of Handel’s music and assist young professional musicians at the start of their careers. Deadline April 1.

RESEARCH
Applications are invited for Handel Institute Awards (up to £1,000) in support of research projects involving the life or works of Handel or his contemporaries. Deadline September 1.

Further details from:

Dr Elizabeth Gibson
15 Pyland Road
Highbury
London N5 2JB
United Kingdom
E-mail: egibson@britten-pears.co.uk
American Handel Society Board of Directors Meeting
Friday May 5, 1:00 PM Location TBA

Conference Session I
Saturday May 6, 9:00 AM
Speakers:
Thomas McGeary, "The Visual Context of Susanna and Solomon: Painting, Music and Libretto"
Susanne Dunlap, "Susanna and the Male Gaze: The Musical 'Iconography' of a Baroque Heroine"
John Byr, "Rhythmic Alteration in Handel's Oratorios"
Richard G. King, "Handel's Revisions and the Poetics of Variatio"
Room 0105, Inn and Conference Center, University of Maryland University College

American Handel Society Membership Meeting
Saturday May 6, 2:00 PM
Room 0105, Inn and Conference Center, University of Maryland University College

American Handel Society Lecture
Saturday May 6, 3:15 PM
Ruth Smith, "Fifteen Ways to Skin an Oratorio, or, Understanding Theodora"
Homer Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Fine Arts Building, University of Maryland

American Handel Society Dinner
Saturday May 6, 6:30 PM
Chasen Family Room, Inn and Conference Center, University of Maryland University College

Conference Session II
Sunday May 7, 9:00 AM
Speakers:
Sarah Davies, "The Secrets of Susanna: Virtuous Virtuosi and the Florid Style in Instrumental Settings of 'Susanna ung Jour'"
David Hunter, "How do you solve a problem like Susanna? Themes and interpretations in conflict"
Eva Zoeller, "Three Solomon Oratorios: Handel, Boyce and Broadway"
Donald Burrows, "An Unwise Solomon"
Room 0105, Inn and Conference Center, University of Maryland University College

Pre-Concert Lecture
Sunday May 7, 2:00 pm
Speaker:
Terence Best
"Handel's Oratorio Solomon"
Maryland Room, Marie Mount Hall, University of Maryland

Concert IV
Sunday May 7, 3:00 PM
Solomon
Sherri Karam: Pharoah's Daughter, The First Harlot, The Queen of Sheba, Grace Gori: The Second Harlot, Lorie Gratis: Solomon, Charles Reid: Zadok, David Brundage: A Levite, with the University of Maryland Chorus and the Smithsonian Concerto Grosso, Paul Traver, conductor
Memorial Chapel, University of Maryland
Tickets: $25.00 / 21.00 / 16.00 / 10.00

The Lectures and Conference Sessions are free. Subscription tickets for Concerts I-IV at reduced prices are also available. For more information or to purchase tickets call (301) 405-5568 or write to the Maryland Handel Festival Box Office, Room 2140, School of Music, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742

INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS:
The Washington area is serviced by three airports: Dulles, Ronald Reagan Washington National, and Baltimore/Washington International (BWI). The closest to College Park, and the most pleasant by far, is BWI. The easiest way to get from these airports to College Park is to call Montgomery Shuttle in advance (1-800-590-0000, or 301-590-0000), and book a shuttle bus ($16-$27 each way).

The conference will be held at the Inn and Conference Center, University of Maryland University College (UMUC), located at the intersection of University Boulevard and Adelphi Road in College Park. You must make your own arrangements for staying at the Inn (telephone 1-800-727-8622, or 301-985-7300). The rate is $109 plus tax per night. A more economical alternative is the Best Western Maryland Inn (8601 Baltimore Blvd., College Park, MD 20740; telephone 1-800-442-1644, or 301-747-2800) at $69 plus tax per night; however, that hotel is some distance from the conference center.

The American Handel Society Dinner will take place in the Chasen Family Room at UMUC on Saturday May 6 beginning at 6:30 PM. The buffet dinner will include tortellini with asparagus and wild mushrooms, penne pasta with vodka and sundried tomato sauce, eggplant parmesan, chicken piccata, antipasto, caesar salad, garlic bread, dessert table, coffee, and tea. To reserve a seat please send a check for $34 to the treasurer, Brad Leissa, at the Society's address, before April 20.

We look forward to seeing you at what promises to be a stimulating festival and conference.

HANDEL-L
HANDEL-L is a list sponsored by the American Handel Society at the University of Maryland, College Park. The list offers a forum for discussion of the life, times, and works of George Frideric Handel as well as related topics. HANDEL-L is open to all and welcomes comments, questions, and short reports from scholars, performers, and others interested in Handel. To subscribe to HANDEL-L, send the following command to listserve@umms.uidu.edu:

SUBSCRIBE HANDEL-L <your first name> [your middle name] <your last name>.

Howard Serwer serves as owner and moderator of HANDEL-L. In that capacity he reviews all postings for relevance and suitability and communicates with submitters if necessary. Serwer's electronic address is hs7@umail.umd.edu.
The J. Merrill Knapp Research Fellowship

The Board of Directors of the American Handel Society invite applications for the year 2001 J. Merrill Knapp Research Fellowship, an award of up to $2,000 to be granted to an advanced graduate student or a scholar in an early stage of his or her career. This fellowship may be used on its own or to augment other grants or fellowships, but may be held no more than twice. The fellowship is intended to support work in the area of Handel or related studies. The winner of the award is given the opportunity to present a paper at the biennial meeting of the American Handel Society.

In awarding the fellowship, preference will be given to advanced graduate students; to persons who have not previously held the fellowship; to students at North American universities and residents of North America; and to proposals on specifically Handelian topics.

Applicants should submit a resume, a description of the project for which the fellowship will be used (not to exceed 750 words), a budget showing how and when the applicant plans to use the funds, and a description of other grants applied for or received for the same project. In addition, applicants should have two letters of recommendation sent directly to the Society at the address below.

Applications for the 2001 Fellowship must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2001 and should be sent to: Professor William Gudger, Department of Music, The College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina 29424-0001. Letters of recommendation may be sent by e-mail to gudgerw@netscape.net. Applicants will be notified of the Board’s decision by May 15, 2001.

The American Handel Society
School of Music, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742
Telephone (301) 581-9602 email: bleissa@intr.net

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

David Hurley, President, Pittsburg State University, Kansas
Brad Leissa, Secretary/Treasurer, Bethesda, MD
Graydon Beeks, Pomona College
Philip Brett, University of California, Riverside
William D. Gudger, The College of Charleston
Ellen T. Harris, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Robert Ketterer, University of Iowa
Alfred Mann, Honorary Director, Eastman School of Music

Ellen Rosand, Vice President, Yale University
Richard G. King, Newsletter Editor, University of Maryland

Nicholas McGegan, Honorary Director, Berkeley, CA
John H. Roberts, University of California, Berkeley
Howard Serwer, Honorary Director, University of Maryland
Olga Termini, California State University, Los Angeles
Paul Tramer, Honorary Director, University of Maryland
William Weber, California State University, Long Beach

*Founding Member

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN HANDEL SOCIETY

Name__________________________________________________________Date________________________
Address______________________________________________________
City________________________________State________________Zip__________________

Class of Membership (for current calendar year; otherwise, specify future starting year on lines below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>DM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REGULAR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOINT</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(one set of publications)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DONOR</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDENT/RETIRED</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of the Handel Institute: £10/$16; students £5/$8.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Those paying in dollars should make their checks payable to THE AMERICAN HANDEL SOCIETY and mail to THE AMERICAN HANDEL SOCIETY, School of Music, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. Those paying in sterling should make their checks payable to Brad Leissa and mail to the society at the above address. Those wishing to pay in DM should remit to Dr. Siegfried Fisch, Treasurer, Georg-Friedrich-Handel-Gesellschaft, Gr. Nikole Str. 5, O-4020, Halle/Saale, Federal Republic of Germany, and indicate that the payment is for the account for the AHS.