ROLE OF BELINDA IN HENRY PURCELL'S DIDO AND AENEAS

by

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B.Mus., University of British Columbia, 2000

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(School of Music)

We accept this thesis as conforming to the required standard

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Department of Music

The University of British Columbia
Vancouver, Canada

Date 25, April, 2002
Abstract

The M. Mus degree in opera requires the performance of a major role in an opera. I performed the role of Belinda in Henry Purcell’s *Dido and Aeneas* on March 7th and 9th, 2002.
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THE CREATION
EDWARD KEMP
MARCH 14 - 23, 2002
TELUS STUDIO THEATRE

DIRTY HANDS
APRIL 1 - 13, 2002
A FESTIVAL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS
VARIOUS CAMPUS VENUES

Theatre
at UBC

Box Office: 604.822.2678
www.theatre.ubc.ca
DIDO AND AENEAS
By Henry Purcell

Cast

Thursday March 7th and Saturday March 9th.

Dido Sandra Stringer
Understudy for Dido Rose-Ellen Nichols
Aeneas Krzysztof Biernacki
Belinda Janet Vantdorlor
Sorceress Heidi Meundel
First Witch Jennifer Farrell
Second Witch Rose-Ellen Nichols
Spirit Alexandria Beck
First Sailor Craig Johnson
Dido's Attendants Jeanette Gibault
Cosima Groll
Witches Katie Cross
Erinn Evdokimoff
Brooke Harris
Megan Morrison
Sailors Andrew Jameson
Chorus Fraser Walters

Friday March 8th and Sunday March 10th.

Dido Beverly McArthur
Understudy for Dido Rose-Ellen Nichols
Aeneas Ello Catana
Belinda Cindy Koistinen
Second Woman Amy La Froy
Sorceress Jeanine Fynn
First Witch Sophia Parlassitis
Second Witch Mia Harris
Spirit Mieke Rickert
First Sailor Ian Paul
Dido's Attendants Jeanette Gibault
Cosima Groll
Witches Katie Cross
Erinn Evdokimoff
Brooke Harris
Megan Morrison
Sailors Andrew Jameson
Chorus Fraser Walters
Choral Director Bruce Pullan

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UBC Symphony Orchestra - Dido and Aeneas

Violin I
Ruth Huang*
Evelyn Kim
Amy Pei
Amanda Huen
One Ignas
Regina Ho
Kim Hamaguchi
Michael Yagi
Violin II
Jason Ho*
Angela Hodgson
Tanya Tenash
Elaine Griffiths
Katya Sokolovskaya
James Wei

Viola
Beth Schuinsenh
James Li
Aaron Butler
Brooke Huy
Cello
Kathryn Thompson*
Anne Dawson
Alexandra Sin
Bass
Jennifer Chin*
Enzo Fichetti
Hariprichard
Harald Epp

*Principal
**Concertmistress

University Singers

Soprano
Cgly April
Cassie Bradley
Jasmine Chou
Bruce Dickson
Brooke Harris
Nancy Hasiuk
Paula MacNeil
Monica Melgari
Dionne Saffinger
Whitney Sloan

Alto
Jennifer Chin
Nanis Derksen
Shen Eakander
Elspeth Findlay
Gillian Hunter
Jennifer Hutchinson
Christine Magee
Megan Morrison
Amanda Murdock
Katy Skinner
Sarah Smith

Tenor
Jordan Back
Dawid Baker
Ian Harris
Stephen Rill
Charlie Davidson
Will Howe
Wei-Hei Hu
Ryan Phillips
Matthew Stephenson
Fraser Walters
Kevin Zolkoski

Bariton
Kevon Chui
John Conlon
David English
Andrew Jameson
Mike Mott
Jonathan Ng
David Powell
Shane Ramsey
Matt Rimmer
Joel Stephenson
Al Smith
Joseph Su
GIANNI SCHICCHI
By Giacomo Puccini

Cast

Thursday March 7th and Saturday March 9th.

Gianni Schicchi Justin Welsh
Lauretta Neema Bickersteth
Zita Jeanine Fynn
Rinuccio Philippe Castagner
Gherardino Jennifer Farrell
Betto Elio Catana
Simone Pierre Hung
Nella Rhoslyn Jones [March 7]

Gherardo Alex Good
Marco Joel Klein
La Ciesca Sheila Christie
Understudy for La Ciesca Erin Evdokimoff
Spinelloccio Riley McMitchell
Amarindo di Nicolai John Conlon
Pinellino Andrew Jameson
Guccio Michael Mori
Understudy for Guccio Riley McMitchell
Buoso Donati David English

Friday March 8th and Sunday March 10th.

Gianni Schicchi Gilbert Anderson*
Lauretta Rhonwen Adams
Zita Katherine Landry
Rinuccio David Doubleday
Gherardino Jennifer Farrell
Betto John Conlon
Simone Gerrit Theule
Nella Rhoslyn Jones [March 11]

Gherardo Joel Jaffe
Marco Stephen Bell
La Ciesca Rosa Nam
Understudy for La Ciesca Erin Evdokimoff
Spinelloccio Michael Mori
Amarindo di Nicolai Andrew Jameson
Pinellino David English
Guccio John Hales
understudy for Guccio Riley McMitchell
Buoso Donati David English

*Appears courtesy of the Canadian Actors’ Equity Association

UBC Symphony Orchestra - Gianni Schicchi

Violin I
Evet Kim**
Adrian Dyck
Ruth Huang
Amy Pui
Amanda Hsu
Dina Ignas
Gillian Mott
Regina Ho
Kim Hamaguchi
Jenny Atkinson
Alisa van Dijk
Natalie Jean
Jason Ho
Michael Yagi

Violin II
Amelia Mori*
Angela Hoogson
Tanya Tomasch
Elaine Griffiths
Kyla
Sokolovskaya
James Wei
Karen Mendle
Jessica Wan
Vincent Wong
Jack Tsai
Simon Chow
Lisa Aird
Eric Zhang

Viola
Beth Schaufele*
Meghan Verdejo*
James Hill
Aaron Butler
Brooke Day
Szabolcs Kabok
Sarah Weingarten

Cello
Kathryn Thompson*
Anne Davison
Sarah Tippelt
Tina Hu
Alexandra Sia
Richard St. Onge
Wesley Attewell
Chris Sanford
Regina Matthew
Kamilla Karoli
Katherine Sepp
Celeste
Richard Epp

Bass
Peggy Tong*
Jennifer Chu
Enzo Figliuzzi
Trevor Yeats

Flute
Greg Kiroznow*
Sandy Chih
Michelle Tsau

Oboe
Maraa Chang*
Justina Kuo

Clarinet
Brenda Kim*
Samuel Davidson

Bassoon
Meghan Dahi
Annie LeFage

French Horn
Chris Unger*
Garland Kwan
Mcaijah Sturges

Trombone
Andrew Poke
Shawn Wright
Peter Waldkirch

Tuba
Matt Thompson

Harp
Lani Kianiz

Timpani
Bruce Henczel

Percussion
Chris O’Neil
Kim Etlinger

**Concert Master
*Principal
Production

Stage Manager
Jenny Inkster
Alishia Harris
Cat George
Aaron Brown
Thompson Tran
Sabrina Pitre
Donna Falconer
Zuzanna Lukas
Christopher Wong
Lucas Wong
Ken Hollands
Lydia Hiebert
Elke Englisch
Niel Volrich
Janet Bickford
Lynn Burton
Valerie Moffat
Gennie Willoughby Senior
Jim Ferguson

Assistant Stage Managers

Senior Repetiteur
Repetiteurs

Technical Director
Costume Coordinator
Wig Stylist
Make-up Artist
Props Supervisors

Scenic Artist
Scenery Construction

Prps Builders
Lighting Operator
Stage Crew

Student Assistant
Title Operator
Production Manager
Business Manager
Communications
Poster Design
Publicity Assistants

Box Office
Theatre Secretary
Administration Assistant
Web Page

For the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
Managing Director
Director of Facilities and Operations
Assistant Technical Director
Programming Manager
Events coordinator
Customer Services Manager
Audio Coordinator
Systems Coordinator
Front of House Coordinators
Concessions Coordinator
Ticket Office Coordinator
Financial Officer
Financial Clerk

Michael Noon
Cameron McGill
Owen Schellenberger
Joyce Hinton
Wendy Atkinson
Lindsay Jameson
Marie Edwards
Jay O'Keefe
Ted Clark
Carl Armstrong
Oren Bick
Nathan Lee
Donna Caedo
Flora Low
Laura Lee Samuels

For the UBC Symphony Orchestra
Conductor
Eric Wilson
Teaching Assistant
Neil Bennett
Librarian
Peggy Tong
Stage Manager
Sarah Tippet

For the University Singers
Assistant Conductor
Stephen Smith

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A Special Thank You to the Vancouver Opera Guild for their donation to this production.
Plot Synopsis - Dido and Aeneas

The action of the opera takes place in Dido's Palace, the cave of the Sorceress, a Forest and the Harbour of Carthage. The story is the familiar one concerning the tragic relationship of Dido, Queen of Carthage, and Aeneas, son of Anchises, a Trojan prince and Venus, Goddess of Love. In Virgil, it is Mercury, messenger of the Gods, who is sent to shatter their dreams of love and empire-building with the reminder that Aeneas is to fulfill his destiny with the founding of Rome as a new Troy. In the opera, it is a false Mercury who is sent by the Sorceress, seen here not merely as a malevolent operatic prototype but a rival, an outlaw queen, who uses the black arts to achieve the downfall of Dido.

Dido and Aeneas, Purcell's only through-composed opera, was written originally for performance by a girls' school in London's Chelsea in 1689. It is unique among Purcell's other principal dramatic works (The Fairy Queen, The Indian Queen, King Arthur and The Tempest) in that there is no dialogue.

and because it is the only one not cast in the stylized form of a Masque. It is a miniature masterpiece where the interplay of love, hatred, and despair is given full dramatic opportunity at the same time as being distilled into little more than an hour of music. The two existing manuscript copies of the score are both dated from the eighteenth century and it is on these that the present version is based.

In any vocal - dramatic work of the period, the arrangement of the continuo (the harpsichord, cello and string bass which accompany so much of the opera) is left to the discretion of the performer or editor and is principally with this aspect, and sometimes with the indication of vocal ornamentation (or lack of it) and the lay-out of the string parts, where the 'libretto realization' is involved:
the new harmonization nor reorganization of Purcell's original, in fact no alteration of any kind other than the supplying of some Purcell music from other sources for a missing scene, for the witches at the end of Act II. This music does not exist in any available manuscript, but the words for it do appear in the published libretto of 1698.

Giuseppe De Luca, the first Gianni Schicchi, at the Metropolitan Opera, 1918

Plot Synopsis - Gianni Schicchi

The action takes place in the house of Countess Donati in Florence, at the time of the Renaissance. The rich Count Donati has died and his relations and their dependents are discovered uncertainly mourning his departure; no one knows to whom he has left his possessions, in particular his house in Florence, his male, and his sawmill at Siqua. The relations despair at the outcome of the will and are most unsympathetic to Rinuccio's ill-timed suggestion that they should ask the wily Gianni Schicchi to help them. Apart from being the father of Rinuccio's beloved Lucrezia, Gianni is a somewhat disreputable, though highly successful merchant who has risen from the ranks of the proletariat. It is this last fact which makes him so unpopular with Rinuccio's ambitious relatives. However, they find that they have no option but to ask for his help. But the tables are turned on them more than once before the end of the opera when, in Schicchi's words, Rinuccio's money is put to better use.

Gianni Schicchi forms part of Puccini's Tristano, three one-act operas, of which the other two are Suor Angelica and Il Tabarro. Today, the operas are more often than not performed separately, but the first performance of the complete Tristano was given by the Metropolitan Opera in 1918.