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Re-Imagining Shakespearean Works in Opera

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

How to Use Our Collection

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Books Related to Purcell's Fairy Queen

Mandinian, Edward. Purcell's The Fairy Queen, As Presented by the Sadler's Wells Ballet and the Covent Garden Opera. [London]: J. Lehmann, 1948. A photographic record of the The Fairy Queen, which was the first opera performed at Covent Garden post-WWII and featured Britain’s new national opera company. Call number: GV1790.F34 M35 1948

Purcell, Henry. The Fairy Queen: An Opera, Represented at the Queen's Theatre by Their Majesties Servants. London: Jacob Tonson, 1692. The opera libretto, without Purcell’s music. This was published the same year as when the opera was first performed at the Queen’s Theatre, Dorset Garden, in London. Call number: VAULT Case V 461 .717

Purcell, Henry. The Fairy Queen: An Opera. London: Novello, [190-]. Vocal score with piano accompaniment, with some transpositions in order to make the parts more widely accessible. Call number: M1503.P994 F32 1900z

Other Shakespearean Operas

Blacher, Boris. *Romeo und Julia: Kammeroper in Drei Teilen frei Nach Shakespeare*. Wien: Universal Edition, c1950. Vocal score of Blacher’s chamber opera in English and German with piano accompaniment. Blacher originally composed this opera in 1943 Germany, but because he did not align himself with the Nazi regime and because of his Jewish background, it was not performed until after WWII in 1950. Call number: VM 1503 .B624r

Boito, Arrigo. *Falstaff: A Lyrical Comedy in Three Acts*. New York: G. Ricordi & Co. Inc., [1944?]. Part of the San Francisco Opera Company Grand Opera Libretto series, this libretto was originally adapted by Boito from Shakespeare’s *Henry IV* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* for Giuseppe Verdi’s last opera, which was first performed in 1893. Call number: Baskes ML50 .V484 F35 1944


Stanford, Charles. *Much Ado about Nothing. Opera in Four Acts Founded on Shakespeare’s Comedy*. London: Boosey & Co., c1901. Vocal score with piano accompaniment of Stanford’s opera. This opera premiered in 1901 at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, but has been performed infrequently since. Call number: VM 1503 .S78m

**Secondary Literature on Shakespeare and Opera**


**Online Resources**

Access databases like JSTOR and Project MUSE from the Newberry Library’s computers. These provide full-text articles from scholarly journals, with a particular strength in the humanities. Searches on “Shakespeare” and “opera” yield essays on opera adaptations of Shakespeare, as well as reviews of books dealing with this topic.