

Dido & Aeneas

an opera by
Mr. Henry Purcell



AN OPERA
Perform'd at
Mr. JOSIAS PRIEST'S Boarding-School at
CHICHELSEY.
By young Gentlemen
The Words Made by Mr. NATH. TATE
The Music Composed by Mr. HENRY PURCELL.
The PROLOGUE.
Phaon Rites in the Chariot,
O'er the Sea, The Nereids out of the Sea.
Phaon From Aeneas's Spiky Bed,
Phaon tears his Sacred Head:
His Courtiers Advancing
Curwenng and Pleading,
A Nereid Phaon Drives in vain to Tame 'em,
With Ambrosia Feed too high.



Introduction to Purcell's opera *Dido and Aeneas*. Provides a brief introduction to the composer's life and times and a discussion of the various forms of music drama and theatrical entertainments that influenced his work. The legend of Dido and her Trojan lover - particularly in its treatment by Virgil - is discussed, along with the adaptation by Nahum Tate. Background to *Dido's* first productions and a summary of its subsequent performance history is also provided. A detailed scene by scene analysis of the opera provides the central focus of the presentation.



Nahum
Tate
Poet
Laureate



Adapted for the Restoration stage

Tate's *Dido and Aeneas*

Virgil's
Aeneid

MORTALS	GODS
AENEAS	JUPITER
DIDO	VENUS
ANNA	JUNO
BARCE	MERCURY
ASCANIUS	IRIS
KING IARBAS	
MAIDS IN WAITING	
SAILORS	

DRAMATIS PERSONAE		
DIDO, OR ELISSA, QUEEN OF CARTHAGE	- -	Soprano
REINDA, A LADY IN WAITING	- - - -	Soprano
FIRST WOMAN	- - - -	Soprano
SECOND WOMAN	- - - -	Mezzo-Soprano
SORCESS	- - - -	Mezzo-Soprano
FIRST WITCH	- - - -	Soprano
SECOND WITCH	- - - -	Soprano
SPIRIT	- - - -	Soprano
AENEAS, A TROJAN PRINCE	- - - -	Tenor or High Baritone
A SAILOR	- - - -	Tenor
Chorus of Courtiers and People, Witches, and Sailors		

SAMPLE SLIDES

Henry Purcell (1659—1695)		<i>Dido and Aeneas</i> 1689	
VOCAL SECTION	PERFORMERS	SONG TYPE / FORM	KEY
Overture		French overture	Cmin
ACT ONE			
Scene Dido's court			
1. Shake the Cloud	<i>Belinda</i>	tuneful arietta	Cmin
2. Banish Sorrow	<i>Chorus</i>	ABA chorus	Cmin
3. Ah, Belinda	<i>Dido</i>	two-part <i>da capo</i> air over <i>ground bass</i>	Cmin Gm
4. Grief increases	<i>Belinda / Dido / Second Woman</i>	two-part air	Cmin Gm
5. When monarchs unite	<i>Chorus</i>	homophonic chorus	Cmin
6. Whence could so much virtue	<i>Dido / Belinda</i>	declamatory 2 voice air	Cmin
7. Fear no danger	<i>Belinda / Second Woman</i>	tuneful duet	C
8. Fear no danger	<i>Chorus</i>	homophonic chorus	C
9. See, your royal guest appears	<i>Belinda / Dido / Aeneas</i>	declamatory 3 voice section	C
10. Cupid only throws the dart	<i>Chorus</i>	polyphonic chorus (canonic entries)	Emin
11. If not for mine	<i>Aeneas</i>	declamatory air	Emin
12. Pursue thy conquest, Love	<i>Belinda</i>	tuneful air ABA	C
13. A dance			C
14. To the hills and the vales	<i>Chorus</i>	polyphonic chorus	C
15. The triumphing dance		Allegro maestoso over <i>ground bass</i>	C



30 Slides, Audio & Video 2 x 75 Minute sessions