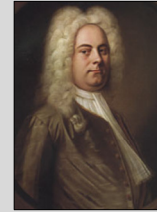


# Opera Seria

...a monstrous union of a thousand improbabilities...

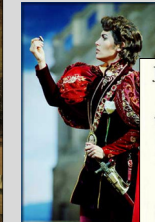


Mr. Handel and the Italian Opera in London 1711-1738

George Frideric Handel



King's Theatre, Haymarket, London



## SAMPLE SLIDES

Introduction to *Opera Seria*, the popular operatic form of the late 17th and early 18th Century. The lectures trace the major developments in European music theatre from the first public opera performances in Venice in the 1630s and the work of Cavalli, through to Mozart's essays in the *Seria* genre. The primary focus is on the work of Handel and his years in London. The phenomenon of the *castrati* superstars is considered and the "opera wars" that took place between rival companies is discussed. Handel's opera *Giulio Cesare* is treated in some detail and several arias and scenes are analysed.

### Viva il coltello!



The Ladies Lamentation for the loss of Senesino



Farinelli 1705-82