

The MUSIC & VISION Classical Music Newsletter

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\* BEAUTIFULLY DELIVERED - ACADEMY OF ANCIENT MUSIC AT THE BBC PROMS

<http://www.mvdaily.com/2013/07/handel.htm>

'It's quite easy to forget about Handel's formative years on the continent, not only in Rome but in Florence, Venice, and his native Germany. He was, after all, still a young man when he settled in England, where he would live for the rest of his life and produce the works we best remember today.

'But AAM director and harpsichordist Richard Egarr was quick to remind us, in his onstage commentary for the BBC's broadcast, of the importance of Handel's time in Rome. Not only had the young composer been inspired, but his writing from the time had provided him with material he would recycle throughout his subsequent career.' - Ellen MacDonald-Kramer (in her first article for M&V)

Ron Bierman is impressed by Joshua Bell's Tchaikovsky concerto in San Diego.

Giuseppe Pennisi visits Tunisia for the El Jem Symphony Festival, and Aix-en-Provence for 'Elektra' and 'Elena'.

Mike Wheeler visits Buxton for operas by Gounod, Maxwell-Davies, Mozart, Saint-Saens, Sciarrino and Vivaldi, plus a short double bill from the festival's Young Artists programme and a short recital for piano duet by Pascal and Ami Roge. In Nottingham, he's thrilled by Andris Nelsons' conducting of the CBSO, and in Derby he listens to organ recitals by John Kitchen, Andrew Kirk, David Pipe, Peter Gould, Tom Corfield, Christopher Johns, Sachin Gunga and Ben Bloor.

Roderic Dunnett's extended feature from Grange Park Opera includes a review of Tchaikovsky's 'Eugene Onegin'. Julian Jacobson listens to Malcolm Troup play Beethoven, Bloch and Britten, and Keith Bramich visits Clun to hear Fleurs de Lys at The Barons' Revolt.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/ensemble/>

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\* HIGHER TRUTH - THE WIHAN QUARTET PLAYS SCHUBERT

<http://www.mvdaily.com/2013/07/schubert.htm>

'Ever since their prodigious performance of Beethoven's quartet cycle in 2008, the Wihan Quartet has established itself as one of the world's

preeminent ensembles. Their latest recording, which features outstanding interpretations of Schubert's Quartettsatz (D 703) and G major Quartet (D 887), brings the fiery panache of Beethoven to the highly troubled works of his Viennese contemporary -- a highly tenable aesthetic position, given the anxiety of influence that can be observed throughout Schubert's music.'

On disc, Andrew Schartmann considers the Wihan Quartet as one of the most important interpreters of Beethoven and Schubert, listens to the mesmerizing creations of Anthony Piccolo, to music by Chavez, Moncayo and Zyman, and to the Allegri Quartet's light touch in Beethoven.

Patric Standford listens to Weinberg's predominantly sorrowful 'Polish Flowers' symphony and to the lively sounds of Joaquin Turina.

Howard Smith listens to lullabies from Rachel Barton Pine, John Rutter from Tewkesbury Abbey and to orchestral music by Eugene Zador.

Bill Newman listens to Tchaikovsky from Anthony Goldstone, to Mahler from Bernard Haitink and to American vocal and symphonic music.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/cdbrowse/>

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\* FRESH INSIGHTS - PAUL KILDEA ON BENJAMIN BRITTEN

'He talked us through his approach to presenting the life of 'this complicated and dark man' for a general readership. In a brief glance at the existing literature, he mentioned that although Peter Pears was an obvious choice to write the official biography, the job was to have been undertaken by Donald Mitchell, but he ended up instead editing the six volumes of correspondence published between 1991 and 2012. The letters themselves usually deal with fairly mundane matters; it was Mitchell's annotations that made the project so valuable. Humphrey Carpenter's 1992 biography he described as 'a rollicking good read', but he clearly felt it left room for his own approach to the subject.'

Paul Kildea discusses work on his recent book about Britten at one of the Buxton Festival's literary events, and Mike Wheeler was in the audience.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/2013/07/kildea.htm>

Still on a literary theme, Kelly Ferjutz reviews Waimea Williams' book 'Aloha, Mozart', the tale of a young Hawaiian woman who battles prejudice in the opera world and makes it to New York and Salzburg.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/2013/07/aloha.htm>

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\* IN THE NEWS

John McCabe's Henry Wood Proms commission, 'Joybox', receives its first performance. Benjamin Sheen is the first winner of the Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition. Norwegian National Opera and Ballet presents its 2013/14 season. Japanese rock musician Yoshiki announces a classical CD.

We mark the deaths of Fernando Alonso and Viktor Sedov.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/news/>

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\* COMING SOON - AUGUST FESTIVALS AND CONCERTS

August's festival scene includes Verbier, Edinburgh, Three Choirs, Presteigne (featuring Britten's 'Curlew River', also in London, and first performances of Sally Beamish's 'Hagar in the Wilderness'), Mostly Mozart (New York), Ostrava Days (Czech Republic), BPSE Regent Hall Summer and Festival International de Musique Symphonique d'El Jem.

Other concerts include music of Steven Gerber in New York, London Concord Singers in Ljubliana, Double Delights from Musica Aesta touring the UK with duets and solos from sixteenth and seventeenth century Italy, BISOYC Inter-Cultural Youth Orchestral Exchange - Tchaikovsky, Gershwin and Britten, Concerts at Cratfield - Blyth Valley Chamber Music (East Suffolk, UK) and the Syrinx Trio at Hambleden.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/concerts/>

If yours is missing, you can add it here:

<http://www.cadenza.org/events/add.php>

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\* ON FINDING A JOB - SOME ADVICE FROM AGONY AUNT ALICE McVEIGH

'... what employers seem to want now is capable, driven, hard-working people with a Master's from Yale who aren't yet middle-aged. In short, the general feeling is that there are more than enough people chasing the truly graduate-level jobs in their twenties without capable women in their forties muscling in on the deal.'

<http://www.mvdaily.com/2013/07/business.htm>

Alice also discusses fruit cakes and mad persons, and some excitement in the tennis world. Interact with Alice and ask her a question here:

<http://www.mvdaily.com/contact/askalice.htm>

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This short newsletter, edited by Keith Bramich, is merely a pale  
text-only taster for Basil Ramsey's high quality and colourful online  
classical music magazine, updated every day since January 1999.

<http://www.mvdaily.com/>

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