
Letter to the Editor

from Michael Graubart

I was shocked to read the phrase 'queer musicology' on page 26 of *Tempo* 204, in David Farneth's review of *The Making of Peter Grimes* – a piece that otherwise deals sensitively with the sexual aspects of that opera and its creators.

Am I being politically correct? I hope so. Something that is correct cannot be incorrect.

And, by the way, one does not need to question the influence of a creative artist's sexual

orientation on his or her work to insist nonetheless that, however queer (in the proper, nonsexual, meaning of that word) some of it may be, musicology deals with *music* and leaves matters of sexuality (that of the characters or that of the creators) to biography, dramaturgy, psychology, sociology, gossip and half-a-dozen other non-musicological disciplines.

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News Section

Composers

JOHN ADAMS. *The Nixon Tapes* (suite from *Nixon in China*) (première)—17 July/Aspen Festival/James Maddalena & other soloists, Aspen chamber Orchestra c. composer. *Hallelujah Junction* (European première)—27 July/Montpellier/pianists of Orchestre Philharmonique de Montpellier. *Slonimsky's Earbox* (London première)—1 September/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Los Angeles PO c. Esa-Pekka Salonen.

THOMAS ADÈS has been appointed Artistic Director to the 1999 Aldeburgh Festival.

KALEVI AHO. *Rejoicing of the Deep Waters* (UK première)—19 August/London, Royal Albert Hall/BBC Scottish SO c. Osmo Vänskä.

JULIAN ANDERSON. *The Stations of the Sun* (première)—21 July/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Andrew Davis.

LOUIS ANDRIESEN. *Basquiât* (première)—8 September/Lisbon, Expo/Block & Steel Dance Company.

GERALD BARRY. *Triorchic Blues* (German première)—23 May/Bad Rosenheim/Ella Sevskikh (vln). *The Road* (première)—29 May/Frankfurt/Hessischer Rundfunk SO c. David Coleman.

GEORGE BENJAMIN is composing a new work for the London Symphony Orchestra, to be toured around the world with Pierre Boulez in 2000.

LUCIANO BERIO. *Ekphrasis Continuum II* (UK première)—23 April/Manchester, ISCM World Music Days/Penelope Walmsley-Clarke (sop), Hallé Orchestra c. Kent Nagano.

MICHAEL BERKELEY. *The Garden of Earthly Delights* (première)—8 August/London/Royal Albert Hall Prom/National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain c. Mstislav Rostropovich.

JUDITH BINGHAM. Bassoon Concerto (première)—6 May/Newcastle, City Hall/Stephen Reay (bn), Northern Sinfonia c. Jane Glover.

HARRISON BIRTWISTLE. *Harrison's Clocks* (première of complete work)—13 July/Cheltenham Festival/Joanna MacGregor (pno). *Exody* (European première)—3 September/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Chicago SO c. Daniel Barenboim.

RORY BOYLE. Capriccio for orchestra (London première)—26 July/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/National Youth Orchestra of Scotland c. Junichi Hirokami.

GAVIN BRYARS. *Doctor Ox's Experiment* (première)—15 June/London, Coliseum/English National Opera c. James Homes.

DIANA BURRELL. *Ave Verum Corpus* (première)—2 May/London, Holy Trinity Church/Allegri Singers c. Michael Nicholas.

MARTIN BUTLER. *Jazz Machines; Carillon* (premières)—15 May/Brighton Festival/Composers Ensemble c. composer.

ELLIOTT CARTER. *Luimen* (UK première)—10 July/Cheltenham Festival/London Sinfonietta c. George Benjamin.

RICHARD CAUSTON. *Tre Pezzi* (UK première)—17 June/London, RCM/RCM 20th Century Ensemble c. Edwin Roxburgh.

MICHAEL DAUGHERTY. *Metropolis Symphony* (UK première)—5 June/BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Enrique Diemecke.

FREIDHELM DÖHL. *Symphony in 7 Movements* (première)—26 April/Lubeck/Lubeck PO c. Erich Wächter.

HENRE DUTILLEUX. *The Shadows of Time* (UK première)—22 July/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Alison Hagley (sop), Chester Festival Chorus, BBC Philharmonic c. Yan Pascal Tortelier.

- ROSS EDWARDS. *Symphony No.2* (première)—21 August/Sydney, Opera House/Yvonne Kenny (sop), Sydney SO c. David Zinman.
- MICHAEL FINNISSY. *North American Spirituals* (UK première)—7 May/Brighton College/composer (pno). *Pour les Agréments* (première)—15 May/Brighton Festival; (Bulgarian première)—12 June/Sofia, Musica Nova Festival/both perfs Stephen Gutman (pno). *Not Afraid* (première)—21 May/London, Spitalfields Market Opera House. Gavin Carr (bar), Scott Gilmore (pno).
- JOHN FOULDS (d.1939). *Three Mantras* (UK première)—6 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/BBC Concert Orchestra c. Barry Wordsworth.
- BERND FRANKE. *Mottke der Dieb*, opera in 2 acts (première)—20 June/Bonn/Ensemble and orchestra of Bonn Opera c. Wolfgang Ott.
- ALAN GIBBS. *Marburg Suite* (première)—31 May/Germany, Klöster Haina Festival/Karl Reissig (piccolo tpt), Martin Weyer (org).
- ANTHONY GILBERT. *Violin Concerto* (première)—22 April/Manchester, RNCM/Lydia Mordkovich (vln), BBC Philharmonic c. Martyn Brabbins.
- DETLEV GLANERT. *Chaconne; Chamber Symphony* (UK premières)—28 June/London, Royal Festival Hall/members of the Philharmonia c. Stefan Asbury.
- PHILIP GLASS. *Monsters of Grace*, ballet with Robert Wilson (première)—15 April/UCLA; (UK première)—19 May/London, Barbican Centre/Philip Glass Ensemble and Voices.
- ALEXANDER GOEHR. *Sur terre, en l'air* (première)—20 June/Aldeburgh Festival/Tabea Zimmermann (vla), Hartmut Höll (pno).
- BERTHOLD GOLDSCHMIDT (d.1996). *Partita* (UK première)—2 July/London, St. John's Smith Square/Trinity College of Music SO c. Graeme Jenkins. *Beatrice Cenci* (UK stage première)—9 July/London, Spitalfields Market Opera/Trinity College Opera c. Gregory Rose. *Deux Nocturnes* (première)—26 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Rosemary Hardy (sop), BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Jiri Belohlávek.
- SOFIA GUBAIDULINA. *And: the feasting at its height* (UK première)—10 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/David Geringas (vlc), BBC National Orchestra of Wales c. Tadaaki Otaka.
- JOHN HARLE. *Angel Magick* (London première)—21 July/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/soloists, Fretwork, The Bauhaus Band, c. composer.
- HEINZ HOLLIGER. *Duo II* (première)—22 August/Thomas Zehetmair (vln), Thomas Demenga (vlc). *4 Japanische Gedichte* (première)—29 August/Sylvia Nopper (sop). Both performances at Lucerne Festival.
- ROBIN HOLLOWAY. *Hymn to the Senses* (London première)—18 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/BBC Singers, BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Stephen Cleobury.
- DAVID HORNE. *Travellers* (première)—1 June/London, Cochrane Theatre/musicians from Trinity College of Music c. Paul McGrath. *Pensive* (première)—14 July/London, St Giles Cripplegate/City Chamber Choir c. Stephen Jones. *Filters* (première)—18 July/Glasgow, Royal Scottish Academy/Esther Geldard (vla), Zoe Solomon (pno).
- TOSHIO HOSOKAWA. *Nach Klänge* (UK première)—22 May/London, Wigmore Hall/Junko Uramaya (pno).
- HERBERT HOWELLS (d.1983). *Hymnus Paradisi* (NY première)—8 April/New York, St Bartholomew's Church/St Bartholomew's Choir, Fairfield Orchestra c. William Trafka.
- EDWARD DUDLEY HUGHES. *The Devil's Drum* (première)—23 May/London, Purcell Room/Solaris Music Theatre c. composer.
- ZYGMUNT KRAUZE. *Piano Quintet* (UK première)—20 April/Manchester, ISCM/RNCM Chamber Ensemble, composer (pno).
- DAVID LANG. *The Passing Measures* (première)—3 May/Birmingham, Adrian Boulton Hall/Marty Ehrlich (bass cl), The Marty Ehrlich Trio, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group c. Paul Herbert.
- MAGNUS LINDBERG. *Telegram* (première)—6 June/Amsterdam, Concertgebouw/Netherlands Radio PO c. Esa-Pekka Salonen.
- JONATHAN LLOYD. *Violin Concerto* (UK première)—22 April/Manchester, RNCM/Lydia Mordkovich (vln), BBC Philharmonic c. Martyn Brabbins.
- GERARD McBURNEY. *Letter to Paradise* (première)—28 July/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Sergei Aleksashkin (bass), BBC National Orchestra of Wales c. Mark Wigglesworth.
- STEPHEN MACKEY. *String Theory* (première)—15 June/San Francisco/Kronos Quartet.
- JAMES MACMILLAN. *Symphony, Vigil* (Japanese première)—2 June/Tokyo, Suntory Hall/NHK Symphony Orchestra c. Tadaaki Otaka.
- STEVE MARTLAND. *Street Songs* (première)—19 May/Bath Festival/Evelyn Glennie (marimbaphone), The King's Singers.
- SIR PETER MAXWELL DAVIES. *Maxwell's Reel with Northern Lights* (première)—13 May/London, Barbican/RPO c. composer.
- THEA MUSGRAVE. *In the Still of the Night* (première)—11 April/Odessa Two Days and Nights of New Music/Paul Silverthorne (vla).
- PER NORGARD. *Aspects of Leaving* (première)—19 April/Manchester, ISCM World Music Days/COMA.
- MICHAEL NYMAN. *Strong on Oaks, Strong on the Causes of Oaks - A Suite for Stevenage* (première)—14 April/London, Royal Festival Hall/English Sinfonia c. Bramwell Tovey.
- ANTHONY PAYNE. *Piano Trio* (première)—20 April/London, Wigmore Hall/Lake Piano Trio.
- KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI. *Missa for solo, chorus and orchestra* (première)—11 July/Eugene, Oregon/Soloists, choir and orchestra of the International Bachakademie c. Helmuth Rilling. *Fanfare* (première)—18 August/Lucerne/Lucerne SO c. Vladimir Ashkenazy.

MATTHIAS PINTSCHER. *Thomas Chatterton* (première)—25 May/Dresden/Saxon State Opera (Semperoper), dir. Marco Arturo Marelli, c. Marc Albrecht.

STEVE REICH. *Hindenburg* (European première of complete work)—18 September/Munich/Ensemble Modern c. Bradley Lubman.

NED ROEM. 6 Pieces for organ (première)—29 June/Denver, Colorado/Eileen Hunt (org). *Autumn Music* (première)—17 September/Indianapolis/Contestants in International Violin Competition.

KAJJA SAARIAHO. *Chateau de l'âme* (UK première)—23 April/Manchester, ISCM World Music Days/Penelope Walmsley-Clarke (sop), Halle Orchestra c. Kent Nagano.

ESA-PEKKA SALONEN. *L.A. Variations* (UK première)—31 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Los Angeles PO c. composer.

KURT SCHWERTSIK. *Ganesha Walkabout* (première)—13 September/Berlin, Philharmonia/Arditti Quartet.

RODION SCHEDRIN. *Concerto cantabile* for violin and strings (première)—10 July/Zurich/Maxim Vengerov (vln), Tonhalle-Orchester c. Mariss Jansons. 4 *Russian Songs* (Concerto for Orchestra No.5) (première)—7 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Ulster Orchestra c. Dmitri Sitkovetsky.

HOWARD SKEMPTON. *Etude* (première)—15 May/Brighton Festival; (Bulgarian première)—12 June/Sofia, Musica Nove Festival/both pers. Stefan Gutman (pno). *Lullaby*; *Winter Sunrise*; *Spadesbourne Suite* (Slovak premières)—27 May/Bratislava/Opera Aperta Ensemble. 2 *Pinter Poems* (première)—5 June/Bratislava/John Tilbury (pno).

LEONARD SLATKIN. *Housewarming* (European première)—11 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Philharmonia c. Leonard Slatkin.

DMITRI SMIRNOV. *Between Scylla and Charybdis* (première)—27 September/Utrecht/Nieuw Sinfonietta Amsterdam c. Lev Markiz.

RONALD STEVENSON. *Songs of Innocence* (public première)—27 May/London, Conway Hall/Moira Harris (sop), Phillida Bannister (mezzo), Wills Morgan (ten), Richard Black (pno). *Le Festin d'Alkan* (première)—6 September/London, Blackheath Concert Halls/Marc-André/Hamelin (pno).

TAN DUN. Concerto for 6 players (première)—3 April/Durham, North Carolina, Duke University/Bang On a Can All-Stars. Symphony, *Heaven Earth Mankind* (European première)—3 August/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/New London Children's Choir, Chinese Imperial Bell Ensemble, BBC Scottish Orchestra c. Jerzy Maksymiuk.

MICHAEL TORKE is writing a new orchestral work for the symphony orchestra of Madison, Wisconsin.

MANFRED TROJAHN. *Was Ihr Wolt*, opera after Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* (première)—24 May/Munich/Bayerische Staatsoper, c. Michael Boder.

EDGARD VARÈSE (d.1965). *Tuning Up* (première)—24 August/Amsterdam/Concertgebouw Orchestra c. Riccardo Chailly. The same concert includes the première of an orchestration of Varèse's *Un grand sommeil noir* by Antony Beaumont.

KURT WEILL (d.1950). *Propheten* (UK première)—26 July/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Kurt Azensberger (ten), soloists, BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus c. Matthias Bamert.

ADRIAN WILLIAMS. Chamber Concerto, *Portraits of Ned Kelly* (première)—16 May/Brighton Festival/Brunel Ensemble c. Christopher Austin.

HUGH WOOD. Variations for Orchestra (European première)—12 September/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Andrew Davis.

Books Received

(A listing in this column does not preclude a review in a future issue of *Tempo*)

Letters from a Life: Selected Letters and Diaries of Benjamin Britten. Volume One 1923-39. Volume Two 1939-45 edited by Donald Mitchell and Philip Reed. First paperback publication. Faber & Faber, £17.50 per volume.

Understanding Rock. Essays in Musical Analysis edited by John Covach and Graeme M. Boone. OUP, £27.50 (hardback), £15.50 (paperback).

Orchestral Performance: A Guide for Conductors and Players by Christopher Adey. Faber & Faber, £25.00.

Backstage at the Opera by Sarah Lenton. Robson Books, £16.95.

Janaček's Works: A Catalogue of the Music and Writings of Leoš Janáček by Nigel Simeone, John Tyrrell and Alena Němcová, with a catalogue of writings by Theodora Straková. OUP.

M. writings '67-'72 by John Cage. First paperback edition, Marion Boyars, £15.95.

Frederick Delius: Music, Art and Literature edited by Lionel Carley. Ashgate, £55.00.

Shostakowitsch in Deutschland edited by the Schostakowitsch-Gesellschaft. Schostakowitsch-Studien, Band 1. Studia Slavica Musicologica, Band 13. Verlag Ernst Kuhn, no price given.

Between Old Worlds and New. Occasional writing on music by Wilfrid Mellers edited and introduced by John Paynter. Farleigh Dickinson University Press (Cygnus Arts), £17.50.

Settling New Scores. Music Manuscripts from the Paul Sacher Foundation edited by Felix Meyer. Catalogue of the Exhibition at the Pierpoint Morgan Library, May 13–August 30, 1998. Schott Musik Verlag for the Paul Sacher Foundation, no price quoted.

Music: a Very Short Introduction by Nicholas Cook. Oxford Paperbacks, OUP, £5.99.

Vaughan Williams by James Day. OUP Master Musicians, £39.99 (hardback), £15.99 (paperback). (A third, and entirely revised, edition of Day's volume originally published in 1961.)

Musik aus Österreich. Komponisten und Komponistinnen des 20. Jahrhunderts edited by Bernhard Günther. Music Information Center Austria.

Shostakovich Reconsidered written and edited by Allan B. Ho and Dmitri Feofanov, with an Overture by Vladimir Ashkenazy. Toccata Press, £45.00.