

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

WATER MUSIC

Edited by/Herausgegeben von/Fondazione
Roger Pisanelli

PREVIEW
Low Resolution



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PREVIEW

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PREFACE

On 19 July 1717 the *Daily Courant* reported an event that had taken place two days earlier:

'On Wednesday Evening, at about 8, the King took Water at Whitehall in an open Barge [...] and went up the River towards Chelsea. Many other Barges with Persons of Quality attended [...] A City Company's Barge was employ'd for the Musick, wherein were 50 Instruments of all sorts, who play'd all the way from Lambeth (while the Barge drove with the Tide without Stop) as far as Chelsea) the Great Syrups &c compas'd expens for this Occasion Mr. Handel, which his Majesty sent well, that he could have no charge these times so great. The King, with Eleven of his Majesty's Guards, went to Chelsea, where a Supper was made, and there was another Concert of Musick, which after the Supper, the King went by Water, the Queen by Land, to the Duke of Bedford's.

Hanدل's first biographer, John Mainwaring, has an anecdote about a water-party of 1715 for which Hanدل composed

music, and there the details of the count are now lost. It is known, however, that the manuscript was written in an earlier water period. The first two pages were written with decorated initials. In the dates of 14 July 1492, the date of the beginning of his biography of Alfonso V, and 15 July 1492, when he began his biography of Isabella, the Queen of Castile. From these dates it is clear that the author was still young. On 15 July 1492, he was 21 years old. The manuscript contains 120 folios. His handwriting is very good, and the music is never accidentally jumbled. The author's lifetime was filled with sorrow and despair than the author of the present of it inherited from Christopher. In spite of what has been said, however, contrary, the music survives in a form that agrees reasonably well with the spoken, all of it fully scored and in four voices.

The printed sources, however, are useful, and I have made but little use of them. The more important are listed below in chronological order, and for some of the information I have drawn on William C. Smith's *Hamlet. A Descriptive Catalogue* (London, 1960). Pieces are identified by the editorial numbering in this study score. Self-explanatory abbreviations to the left of the sources are used later in the Editorial Notes. PP means Printed Parts.

Arrangements of minuets: 6 and 12 for harpsichord in *The Lady's Banquet* III (1728; only the c. 1732 edition seems to survive); 6 as

'Phallus the lovely' and 'Thirst, afflicted with Love' (c.1725), and in ballad operas (e.g. Air 19 in Gay's *Polly* of 1729); 12 as 'When I beheld Clarinda's Eyes' and 'Hark, how the Trumpet sounds' (c.1720), and in ballad operas (e.g. Air 28 in both *Polly* and *Mourning turn'd Fubalist*); 17 as 'Lovely Cleo' (c.1725, and in *The Musical Miscellany V*). 6 and 12 are usually called 'Minuet for the French Horn' and 'Trumpet Minuet' without reference to the *Water Music*. Bailes, if any, are not Handel's.

PP/Ov. Six Overtures for Violins in all
Paris, Wulah's third Collection,
cludes the 'Water Music' overture
among Handel operas. Overtures
Smith gives c. 1725, but the
(incomplete) include Admetus
cannot be before 1730. The
Mazu: two odes, and a larger
collection of three odes
The night piece
Violins

RE The first movement, in 4/4 time, begins with a rhythmic pattern of eighth-note pairs in the bassoon, bassoon and cello. The bassoon's eighth-note pairs are sustained from a previous measure, and the bassoon has occupied, throughout the movement, a prominent position. The bassoon parts included a soprano, an unaccompanied soprano trumpet, and a soprano in the bass octave, during the slow section. He issued two parts for Violin I and Oboe I, another for Violin II and Oboe II, sometimes the engraver managed to get both instrumental lines onto one page, but usually he omitted whichever seemed the less important. In 9

the result is abounding in variety (2 horns, bassoon, strings) and constantly played all over the world. In one instance an interval of 10 years separated the first performance in London, 1892, from a second, the drama world over. The first was a success, but the second, at the Royal Welshman's Hall, was a popular success.

Plutonium

The *Concerto* prior published in parts by Walsh (1733) is surely apocryphal. The present looks like a purged version written down from memory; Nos. 1-3 are not known to be by Handel, and I could not be played without a harpsichord. All five pieces are naively scored for trumpet and strings. No. 5 had appeared in Partlow's (1730).

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the family until 1915. This carefully written MS cannot be earlier than 1736 because it contains the 'Alexander's Feast' Concerto, nor later than 1743 because it includes 9, the piece not available for Hps. The most reliable source.

- BL: Fitzwilliam Music GB-Cfm MS. II.16 (BL 67) at Cambridge is from the Barrett Lennard Collection bought in 1902. Another 'library' copy made by the elder J.C. Smith or one of his staff. As it omits No. 9, it
be later than Gran.

Ayles: Manchester Public Library has soon and a set of parts copied by Smith or his staff for Hinckley. Hinckley, Charles Jenman, who had planned to perform the work, is important to a collection of the Earl of Derby's and the Aylmer's by George Phibes. Hinckley went to Manchester, where he is now 100 years old, and left his collection to the library. The collection includes 100 parts of 17th-century music well worth hearing. It was copied from the original manuscripts, but one of the parts (No. 101) is a copy of No. 22, which is the first piece in the set. Hinckley has also given the library his surviving parts and at the most recent stage. The parts were written on the obverse so that they could be played by two players. The 14 partsbooks are: *Heauton I* and *II*, *Corno I* and *II*, *Tromba I* and *II*, *Violino Concerto I* and *II*, *Viulino 'Arioso' I* and *II*, *Viella*, *Violoncelli*, *Contra Bassi*, 'Basson'. The order of the pieces is

not that of Cram, #11, includes 9 and may
LL, and before 1741.

VIII

chanced to survive. He added three new pieces for full band, and was so eager for a grand effect that he allowed himself no dynamic contrasts in the D major suite; the five pieces were to be performed *fortissimo* throughout.

Movements 15–19 are in yet another key, G, and feature the two main kinds of flute. They are so quietly scored that they can hardly have been intended as river music. Almost certainly they were the 'very fine Consort of Musick' performed while the King had supper at Cheltenham. The London Resident mentioned both kinds of flute as being played on the banks; if they were played in the outdoors, then, they must have doubled the above pairs.

Gran, HL, and Lips all give the same, what I believe was the 1717 order, though preserval that odd pieces. The title 'Trumpet Suites' are, of course, wrong.

- I. Suite No.1 in F
- II. Suite No.2 in D
- III. Suite No.3 in C

MS. Add. 22, 1717, folios 1–16, 18–20, 22–24, 26–28, 30–32, 34–36, 38–40, 42–44, 46–48, 50–52, 54–56, 58–60, 62–64, 66–68, 70–72, 74–76, 78–80, 82–84, 86–88, 90–92, 94–96, 98–100, 102–104, 106–108, 110–112, 114–116, 118–120, 122–124, 126–128, 130–132, 134–136, 138–140, 142–144, 146–148, 150–152, 154–156, 158–160, 162–164, 166–168, 170–172, 174–176, 178–180, 182–184, 186–188, 190–192, 194–196, 198–200, 202–204, 206–208, 210–212, 214–216, 218–220, 222–224, 226–228, 230–232, 234–236, 238–240, 242–244, 246–248, 250–252, 254–256, 258–260, 262–264, 266–268, 270–272, 274–276, 278–280, 282–284, 286–288, 290–292, 294–296, 298–300, 302–304, 306–308, 310–312, 314–316, 318–320, 322–324, 326–328, 330–332, 334–336, 338–340, 342–344, 346–348, 350–352, 354–356, 358–360, 362–364, 366–368, 370–372, 374–376, 378–380, 382–384, 386–388, 390–392, 394–396, 398–400, 402–404, 406–408, 410–412, 414–416, 418–420, 422–424, 426–428, 430–432, 434–436, 438–440, 442–444, 446–448, 450–452, 454–456, 458–460, 462–464, 466–468, 470–472, 474–476, 478–480, 482–484, 486–488, 490–492, 494–496, 498–500, 502–504, 506–508, 510–512, 514–516, 518–520, 522–524, 526–528, 530–532, 534–536, 538–540, 542–544, 546–548, 550–552, 554–556, 558–560, 562–564, 566–568, 570–572, 574–576, 578–580, 582–584, 586–588, 590–592, 594–596, 598–600, 602–604, 606–608, 610–612, 614–616, 618–620, 622–624, 626–628, 630–632, 634–636, 638–640, 642–644, 646–648, 650–652, 654–656, 658–660, 662–664, 666–668, 670–672, 674–676, 678–680, 682–684, 686–688, 690–692, 694–696, 698–700, 702–704, 706–708, 710–712, 714–716, 718–720, 722–724, 726–728, 730–732, 734–736, 738–740, 742–744, 746–748, 750–752, 754–756, 758–760, 762–764, 766–768, 770–772, 774–776, 778–780, 782–784, 786–788, 790–792, 794–796, 798–800, 802–804, 806–808, 810–812, 814–816, 818–820, 822–824, 826–828, 830–832, 834–836, 838–840, 842–844, 846–848, 850–852, 854–856, 858–860, 862–864, 866–868, 870–872, 874–876, 878–880, 882–884, 886–888, 890–892, 894–896, 898–900, 902–904, 906–908, 910–912, 914–916, 918–920, 922–924, 926–928, 930–932, 934–936, 938–940, 942–944, 946–948, 950–952, 954–956, 958–960, 962–964, 966–968, 970–972, 974–976, 978–980, 982–984, 986–988, 990–992, 994–996, 998–1000, 1002–1004, 1006–1008, 1010–1012, 1014–1016, 1018–1020, 1022–1024, 1026–1028, 1030–1032, 1034–1036, 1038–1040, 1042–1044, 1046–1048, 1050–1052, 1054–1056, 1058–1060, 1062–1064, 1066–1068, 1070–1072, 1074–1076, 1078–1080, 1082–1084, 1086–1088, 1090–1092, 1094–1096, 1098–1100, 1102–1104, 1106–1108, 1110–1112, 1114–1116, 1118–1120, 1122–1124, 1126–1128, 1130–1132, 1134–1136, 1138–1140, 1142–1144, 1146–1148, 1150–1152, 1154–1156, 1158–1160, 1162–1164, 1166–1168, 1170–1172, 1174–1176, 1178–1180, 1182–1184, 1186–1188, 1190–1192, 1194–1196, 1198–1200, 1202–1204, 1206–1208, 1210–1212, 1214–1216, 1218–1220, 1222–1224, 1226–1228, 1230–1232, 1234–1236, 1238–1240, 1242–1244, 1246–1248, 1250–1252, 1254–1256, 1258–1260, 1262–1264, 1266–1268, 1270–1272, 1274–1276, 1278–1280, 1282–1284, 1286–1288, 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1654–1656, 1658–1660, 1662–1664, 1666–1668, 1670–1672, 1674–1676, 1678–1680, 1682–1684, 1686–1688, 1690–1692, 1694–1696, 1698–1700, 1702–1704, 1706–1708, 1710–1712, 1714–1716, 1718–1720, 1722–1724, 1726–1728, 1730–1732, 1734–1736, 1738–1740, 1742–1744, 1746–1748, 1750–1752, 1754–1756, 1758–1760, 1762–1764, 1766–1768, 1770–1772, 1774–1776, 1778–1780, 1782–1784, 1786–1788, 1790–1792, 1794–1796, 1798–1800, 1802–1804, 1806–1808, 1810–1812, 1814–1816, 1818–1820, 1822–1824, 1826–1828, 1830–1832, 1834–1836, 1838–1840, 1842–1844, 1846–1848, 1850–1852, 1854–1856, 1858–1860, 1862–1864, 1866–1868, 1870–1872, 1874–1876, 1878–1880, 1882–1884, 1886–1888, 1890–1892, 1894–1896, 1898–1900, 1902–1904, 1906–1908, 1910–1912, 1914–1916, 1918–1920, 1922–1924, 1926–1928, 1930–1932, 1934–1936, 1938–1940, 1942–1944, 1946–1948, 1950–1952, 1954–1956, 1958–1960, 1962–1964, 1966–1968, 1970–1972, 1974–1976, 1978–1980, 1982–1984, 1986–1988, 1990–1992, 1994–1996, 1998–2000, 2002–2004, 2006–2008, 2010–2012, 2014–2016, 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