The revival of the music of Mayr in the 20th century

Note: Any discussion of Mayr revivals should take account of the work of Dr Heinrich Bauer who made numerous broadcasts on the Bavarian State Radio between 1961 and 1983, in his roles of musicologist, broadcaster and accompanist. He always edited and wrote the text of his programmes, inserting whenever possible examples of Mayr's music, numerous items of which are not unfortunately recorded in the following listing due to lack of documentation. In this context we have even been unable to find performance dates and details of the *Suite for Harp; Concerto for three violins; and the Sinfonia concertata for piccolo, flute, clarinet and basset horn* (sometimes referred to as the *Concerto Bergamasco.*

Besides the editions which Dr Bauer prepared, notes show that the State Radio and various colleagues also prepared performing material.

The scope and ammount of Mayr's music which was broadcast in these years is quite tantalising and commands respect, for Dr Bauer combined these lecturing activities with his work as a dentist. Maybe 1995 will see the fulfilment of his great wish to see Johann Simon Mayr re-established among the pantheon of great composers.

Gio : Simone Mayr

1961 12/5 - Bavarian State Radio broadcast the Overture and vocal extracts from *Ginevra di Scozia* with Antonia Fahberg (soprano) and Walter Lederer (tenor); Radiofunkorchester conducted Hans Moltkan.

1962 24/9 - Bavarian State Radio, broadcast of first performance of *Piano Concerto No 1*; soloist: Peter Hollfelder; Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rudfunks conducted by Rudolf Albert.

1963 *Johann Simon Mayr zum 200 Geburtstag*, Mendorf, Ingolstadt and Munich.

2/2 Bavarian State Radio: *Twelve Venetian Songs*; Maria Manni-Jottini (soprano); Paul Sanders (piano).

13/6 - Herkules-Saal der Residenz, Munich. *Medea in Corinto* (edited Heinrich Bauer).
Medea: Stina-Britta Melander; *Giasone:* Giorgio Merighi; *Creusa:* Maria Manni-Jottini; *Egeo:* John van Kesteren; *Creonte:* Rodolfo Sutey. Chorus and Orchestra of the Bavarian State Radio, conducted by Robert Heger.

14/6 - Sta.Maria de Victoria, Ingolstadt. *Salve Regina* for T and orchestra; *Two Nocturnes* for Wind; *'Se il più dolce sentimento'* aria for S and vl obl; *Two Nocturnes for Wind; 'Venite o figli miei'* cantata terza for T and 2 treble sopranos; Munich Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Hans Stadlmair.

16/6 Mendorf - *Mass in B* for soloists, chorus and orchestra, performed liturgically and conducted by Karl Robert Schmid. Concert for Wind: Suite of motives from *Lodoiska; La rosa bianca e la rosa rossa* Overture.

1963 Bergamo: *Celebrazioni di Giovanni Simone Mayr nel bicentinario della nascita.*

16-24/11: Via Tasso 1 - Exhibition of manuscripts.

19/11: Sta Maria Maggiore - *Messa da Requiem* in D minor A1299, Choir of Santa Maria Maggiore under Revd.Giuseppe Pedemonti, cb Alfredo Nosari, org Luciano Benigni.

19/11: Teatro Duse - *La rosa bianca e la rosa rossa* [edited Giampiero Tintori]; *Enrico:* Maria Minetto; *Rodolfo:* Emilio Salvoldi; *Clotilde:* Maria Manni-Jottini; *Vanoldo:* Franco Ghitti; *Elvira:* Ortensia Beggiato; *Ubaldo:* Gianfranco Manganotti, conducted by Adolfo Camozzo.

[revived: 7,9,11/10/90 – Teatro Donizetti, Bergamo – *Enrico:* Susanna Anselmi; *Rodolfo:* Danilo Serraiocco; *Clotilde:* Anna Caterina Antonacci; *Vanoldo:* Luca Canonici; *Elvira:* Silvia Mazzoni; *Ubaldo:* Enrico Facini, conducted by Thomas Briccetti, who also revised the Tintori edition.]
(see also under RECORDINGS)
22/11: Teatro Duse – Malipiero *Variazioni su un tema di G.S.Mayr; Gran Messa di Requiem* in G minor A1294; Angela Vercelli, Laura Zanni, Giuseppe Baretti, Lorenzo Gaetani, chorus and orchestra of RTI Milan, conducted by Fulvio Vernizzi.

[This work has since been revived in Bergamo, New York and Manila].

During **1963** the Bavarian State Radio broadcast the first performance of the *Piano Concerto No.2* – the only details so far available are: Blankenheim (soloist); and Stadt Orchester, Regensburg conducted by Winkler.

1964 5/10 – Bavarian State Radio: *La Farfalletta* variations for flute (Karl Bobzien) and piano (Gita Schneider) on the popular song.

1965 28/7 – Bavarian State Radio broadcast the Overture and vocal extracts from *Fedra*:Bamberger Symphoniker conducted by Reinhard Peters.

1969 2/12 – Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York – *Medea in Corinto [edited by Heinrich Bauer]; Creusa:* Joan Patenaude; *Creonte:* Thomas Palmer; *Giasone:* Allen Cathcart; *Medea:* Marisa Galvany; *Ismene:* Molly Stark; *Egeo:* Robert White, conducted by Newell Jenkins. The opera was repeated on 19/12 by popular request.

1970 12/2 – Bavarian State Radio broadcast the first performance of the Overture *L'intrigo della lettera*, Bamberger Symphoniker, conducted by Jan Koetsier.

12/6 – Queen Elisabeth Hall, London. *Medea in Corinto* Overture arr for 2 pianos; *'Non palpitar mia vita'* Erica Busch/Max Morris; *Alfredo il Grande 'Ov'è la bella vergine'* Sonia Ardontz acc Patricia Lynden fl, Chilingirian Quartet and Nina Walker pf.

1970 14/11 St.John's Smith Square, London. *L'amor coniugale* Overture; *Alonso e Cora 'Cora, mio ben fuggiam': Ginevra di Scozia 'Era felice il di'; La rosa bianca e la rosa rossa 'Dov'è la destra'; Elisa 'Dolce fiamma'; Ginevra di Scozia 'Per pietà, deh non lasciarmi'; Adelaide di Guesclino* Overture; *Medea in Corinto 'Cedi al destin'; L'amor coniugale 'Una moglie sventurata'; Le finte rivali 'Il pesciolin guizzanso'; Medea in Corinto 'Ah! che tento!'* Lissa Gray, Mergreta Elkins, John Brecknock, Kevin Smith, Athole Still. Opera Rara Orchestra conducted by Alun John.

1970 4/12 – Wigmore Hall, London. Josephine Darnell acc by Geoffrey Burford sang a number of Mayr songs.

1972 18/6 – Queen Elisabeth Hall, London. *Medea in Corinto (Opera Rara edition). Medea:* Milla Andrew; *Creusa:* Kate Hurney; *Creonte:* Christian du Plessis; *Giasone:* Ramon Remedios; *Egeo:* Francis Egerton; *Ismene:* Patricia Sabin; *Tideo/Evandro:* Martyn Hill. Opera Rara Orchestra and Chorus, conducted by Roderick Brydon.

1973 1/3 – St John's Smith Square, London. *L'amor coniugale [edited Arrigo Gazzaniga]. Zeliska:* Lois McDonall; *Amorveno:* Richard Gandy; *Moroski:* Ian Caddy; *Floresca:* Susan Lees; *Peters:* John Tomlinson; *Ardelao:* James Anderson. Pro Opera Orchestra, conducted by Leslie Head. Performance recorded and broadcast by BBC Radio, London. The opera was eventually staged in the Teatro della Società, Bergamo **13, 15/11 1984.**

1974 2/4 – St John's Smith Square, London. *La Passione* (performed using copies of the original score and parts). *S.Maria:* Wendy Eathorne; *S.Maria Magdalena:* Anne Collins; *S.Giovanni:* Charles Corp; *S.Giuseppe d'Arimatea:* Rodney Macann. Royal Liberty School Madrigal Choir, Pro Opera Orchestra, conducted by Leslie Head. Performance recorded and broadcast by BBC Radio, London.

1974 7/4 Kongressaal des Deutschen Museums, Munich. *S.Luigi Gonzaga [edited Heinrich Bauer]*; *Luigi:* Arleen Auger; *Donna Marta:* Trudeliese Schmidt; *Don Ferrante:* Barry McDaniel. Chorus and Orchestra of the Munich State Radio, conducted by Gunther Wich.

1975 20/3 - Stadt Theater, Bern - *Medea in Korinth [edited Heinrich Bauer]*, first modern performance in German, trans. Theo Molich. *Kreon:* Gunter Missenhardt; *Ageus:* Garnet Brooks; *Medea:* Ruth Falcon; *Jason:* David Kuebler; *Krusa:* Badiene Magaziner; *Ismene:* Marie-Louise Hasselgren, conducted by Ewald Korner. The opera was in repertory 1974-75.

1976 16/3 - St John's Smith Square, London. *Te Deum for the Coronation of Napoleon,* Mozart (and Leopold Mozart?) *Missa Solemnis* in C K(appendix)1.20, transcribed by Mayr: Wendy Eathorne, Cynthia Buchan, Catherine Fish, Ian Thompson, David Thomas Wilkinson, Michael George,Christopher Wood. Pro Opera Chorus and Orchestra, conducted by Leslie Head.

1977 29/7 - Bavarian State Radio: *Cantata per la morte di Beethoven* - broadcast on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Beethoven's death. Programme presented by Heinrich Bauer.

1982 18/12 - Hochschule fur Musik, Munich. *Le due giornate* Overture; *Cantata per la morte di Beethoven [edited by Heinrich Bauer]:* Irmingard Stummer, Norikiyo Hayashi, Peter Ullrich. Grosser Hochschulchor, Orchester der Beethoven-Gesellschaft, conducted by Gunter Weiss. The *Cantata* was broadcast on Munich Radio and in 1990 2/5 performed in a revised edition by Lawrence Sisk, with Jill Ballotti, Robert Holst, Gregory Grodecki, Lewis University Choir and Choir of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Lewis University Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Lawrence Sisk.

1984 20/11 - Teatro Donizetti, Bergamo. *Marcia lugubre, Requiem* in E flat Major; Paula Scalera, Keiko Kashima, Carlo Gaifa, Ambrogio Riva, chorus and wind ensemble, conducted by Pieralberto Cattaneo.

1986 8/5 Radio broadcast: Dublin RTE studios. *La Passione 'Qual terribil vendetta'; Elena:'Se mirar potessi'; Elisa* Overture; *Annibale a Cartago* cantata, Ian Caddy, RTE Concert Orchestra conducted by Proinnsias O'Duinn.

1988 2/4 Radio broadcast, BBC London (subsequently rebroadcast): *L'intrigo della lettera* Overture, *Piano Concerto No 2,* soloist Keith Swallow, *La Passione 'Qual terribil vendetta', L'amor coniugale* Overture, *Annibale a Cartago* cantata. Ian Caddy, Northern Sinfonia, conducted by Richard Hickox.

1989 24/3 - St Andrew's Parish Church, Rugby. *Stabat Mater No 5*, performed liturgically for Good Friday, soloists and Orchestra of the Beauchamp Sinfonietta. 16/5/92 performed at St Mary's Church, Portsmouth.

1990 6/10 - Norrlandsoperan, Umea, Sweden. *Che originali! [edition Anders Wiklund]. Febeo:* Helge Iannerback; *Aristea:* Paula Hoffman; *Rosina:* Monica Sjoholm; *Carolino:* Klas Hedlund; *Biscroma:* Lars Martinsson; *Celestina:* Elisabeth Hellstrom; *Carluccio:* Ingemar Andersson, conducted by Terje Boye Hansen.

1991 15/5 - St John's Smith Square, London. *Credo* (Heiligmesse 1797 Haydn arr.Mayr) for wind, with Mayr *Et incarnatus est, Requiem* in E flat Major for soloists, chorus and wind. Fiona Firth-Spiller, Maria Jagusz, Richard Reavill, Ian Caddy, Hanover Choir and Wind ensemble, conducted by Natalie Seymour. Repeated liturgically in the same year on All Soul's Day, at St Augustine's Church, London.

14/10 Teatro Donizetti, Bergamo. *Annibale; Annibale a Cartago; La moglie di Asdrubale*; cantatas. Paolo Pellegrini, Ian Caddy, Barbara Frittoli. Orchestra Stabile di Bergamo, conducted by Thomas Briccetti. These cantatas were also broadcast by RTE Radio, Dublin in 1992 with Emanuel Lawler, Ian Caddy, Joan Merrigan, with the RTE Concert Orchestra, conducted by Proinnsias O'Duinn.

14/12 - Teatro Golden, Palermo. *Salve Regina in B flat Major* (see also under RECORDINGS), soloists and wind ensemble directed by Pieralberto Cattaneo.

1992 7/3 – Sala Piatti, Bergamo. *Nocturnes for Nine Wind Instruments,* Gruppo Fiati Musica Aperta, directed by Vittorio Bonolis.

1993 29/3 – Santuario Santa Maria delle Grazie, *Lamentazione 1a, Passione secondo Matteo e Marco.* Jos Van Der Lans, Franco Vassallo, Coro "La Rocchetta", Complesso strumentale "Collegium Musicum", revised and directed by PierAngelo Pelucchi.

7/7 – Basilica di S.Giacomo, Como – *Sisara* oratorio biblico: *Sisara:* Ilia Aramayo Sandivari; *Jahel:* Monserrat Sanromè; *Debora/Abra/Dina:* Alessandra Gavazzeni; *Barac/Thamar/Elcana:* Patrizia Sala, conducted by PierAngelo Pelucchi.

1994 20/3 – St Anne's Cathedral, Leeds – *La Passione (1794): S.Maria:* Irene Evans; *S.Maria Magdalena:* Susan Lees; *S.Giovanni:* Trefor Glenn; *S.Giuseppe d'Arimatea:* Ian Caddy; St Anne's Cathedral Choir and Orchestra, conducted by George Kennaway.

11/6 – St. John's Smith Square, London – *Mass in E flat* for choir and wind, the Hanover Choir and the Hanover Sinfonia, conducted by Natalie Seymour.

30/9 – Basilica di Madonna di Tirano, *Passione secondo Matteo e Marco,* Ernesto Palacio, Riccardo Ristori, Collegium Musicum di Bergamo, revised and directed by PierAngelo Pelucchi. (see also under RECORDINGS).

[*Note: the above list inevitably excludes many liturgical performances of his music]*

RECORDINGS

1970 – Vanguard Cardinal series VCS–10087/8/9: *Medea in Corinto A57 [edited Heinrich Bauer] Medea:* Marisa Galvany; *Creusa:* Joan Patenaude; *Ismene:* Molly Stark; *Giasone:* Allen Cathcart; *Egeo:* Robert White; *Creonte:* Thomas Palmer. Clarion Concerts Chorus and Orchestra, conducted by Newell Jenkins.

1973 – Turnabout (Vox) TV 34526S – *Piano Concerto No1 in C* A479. Maria Littauer, Hamburg Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Alois Springer.

1973 – Unique Opera recordings UORC 167–ABCD – *L'amor coniugale* A39, pirated recording of the St John's Smith Square, London performance of 1/3/1973.

1983 – Sipario Dischi CS5 – *Dixit in B flat Major a tre* and *Salve Regina in F a tre* for wind and continuo: Cettina Cadelo, Carlo Gaifa, Teodoro Rovetta, with wind ensemble conducted by Pieralberto Cattaneo.

1983 – Opera Rara ORH 101 – A hundred years of Italian Opera 1800–1810 – *L'amor coniugale: 'Rendi l'amato consorte'* Eiddwen Harrhy, *Elisa* Overture. Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by David Parry.

1984 – Opera Rara ORH 102 – A hundred years of Italian Opera – Mayr: *Adelasia ed Aleramo 'Dovè salvarmi? Oh Dio! ch'io fra voi': Alfredo il Grande 'Ovè la bella vergine': Elena 'Ah! se mirar potessi': Le finte rivali 'Il pesciolin guizzando': Fedra 'Se fiero, Ippolito': Cora 'Sempre uniti insiem saremo': Ginevra di Scozia 'Per pietà, deh! non lasciarmi: La rosa bianca e la rosa rossa 'Dov'è la destra? infida'.* Nan Christie, Sandra Dugdale, Eiddwen Harrhy, Diana Montague, Myrna Moreno, Della Jones, Marilyn Hill Smith, Yvonne Kenny, Penelope Walker, Kevin John, Russel Smythe, Philip Doghan, Robin Leggate. Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by David Parry.

1987 – Opera Rara ORH 103 – A hundred years of Italian Opera 1810–1820 – *Medea in Corinto: 'Amiche cingete...Caro albergo'.* Yvonne Kenny (Susan Drake hp). Philharmonia Orchestra, Geoffrey Mitchell Choir, conducted by David Parry.

1991 – Ricordi (Fonit Cetra) RFCD 2007 *La rosa bianca e la rosa rossa: Clotilde:* Anna Caterina Antonacci; *Enrico:* Susanna Anselmi; *Rodolfo:* Danilo Serraoicco; *Vanoldo:* Luca Canonici; *Elvira:* Silvia Mazzoni; *Ubaldo:* Enrico Facini. Orchestra Stabile di Bergamo, Coro Accademia Milano, conducted by Thomas Briccetti.

1994 – Opera Rara ORC 11 *Medea in Corinto (near-definitive edition with most of the additional material in an appendix). Medea:* Jane Eaglen; *Creonte:* Alastair Miles; *Giasone:* Bruce Ford; *Egeo:* Raúl Giménez; *Creusa:* Yvonne Kenny; *Evandro:* Neill Archer; *Ismene:* Anne Mason; *Tideo:* Paul Nilon. Philharmonia Orchstra, conducted by David Parry.

1995 (available spring 1995) Arkadia – *Passione di Nostro Signor Gesù Cristo (secondo Matteo e Marco* Ernesto Palacio, Riccardo Ristori, Collegium Musicum di Bergamo, conducted by PierAngelo Pelucchi.

[1995 will see projected recordings of the *Messa di Requiem* in D minor and a performance and

recording of *Adelasia ed Aleramo* is anticipated]

Mayr in 1995

Certain appointments can already be made for the year to come. It seems very likely that Bergamo will host at least one *convegno* and hopefully two comedies, probably *L'avaro [edited by Anders Wiklund]* and *L'intrigo della lettera [edited by David Bryant]*. An absolute find, his comic opera - or opera semi-seria perhaps would be a better description - *Werter* is also in line for a staging this year, a world première no less. (At the Teatro Olympico, Vicenza?)

Bergamo will also be the place to introduce John Allitt's new book on the maestro:



sabato 6 maggio 1995
ore 20.45
TEATRO CASA DEL GIOVANE
Via Gavazzeni, 13
Bergamo

JOHN STEWART ALLITT

GIOVANNI SIMONE MAYR
vita musica pensiero

presentazione del volume da parte dell'autore

edizione Villadiseriane
Con il Patrocinio del Circolo della Musica "J.Simon Mayr"



relatore John Stewart Allitt sul tema 'Bergamo, Donizetti e Mayr'
Concerto - saranno eseguiti brani di Mayr per voce e pianoforte

One only concert is yet programmed apart from the above:

Mayr *Stabat Mater* St Augustine's Church, Queens Gate, Kensington London, Saturday 17 June 1995. The Hanover Choir, conducted by Natalie Seymour. Further details and elucidations will be supplied in the next Newsletter.

The Donizetti Critical Edition

Roger Parker writes to tell us of the progress of the Donizetti critical edition, published by Ricordi. The first volume, *Maria Stuarda* (edited by Anders Wiklund), was published in full score in 1991 and has now been performed numerous times around Europe.

Il campanello (edited by Ilaria Narici), first performed in Bergamo two years ago, is now about to be published.

Two further operas have already been performed several times, and will be published during the next two years: *La Favorite* (edited by Rebecca Harris-Warrick) and *Poliuto* (edited by William Ashbrook and Roger Parker.

Operas now under way include: *Le convenienze ed inconvenienze teatrali* (edited by Anders Wiklund and Roger Parker), ready for performance in 1995 - this will be a revised, 1831 version, but with extensive appendices collecting material from earlier and later versions; *Dom Sébastien* (edited by Mary Ann Smart, ready for performance in 1997) - the French version, though with some additions from Vienna; and *Adelia* (edited by Roger Parker, ready for performance in 1997).

Dr Parker also rells us that he will be preparing the "Donizetti" entry for a new edition of *Grove*, due out in three or four years' time. If readers have any additions or corrections to the entry found in the *New Grove Dictionary of Opera* (particularly in the works list), he would be very grateful to hear of them. He can be reached at Faculty of Music, St Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1DB.