Music Appreciation

Baroque Opera

Music Appreciation

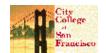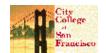»   What is an Opera?

Music Appreciation

» Opera is a total art form which joins <u>music</u>, <u>singing</u>, <u>drama</u>, <u>poetry</u>, <u>set design arts</u> and sometimes <u>dance.</u>

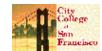# Music Appreciation

» Overture is an <u>orchestral composition</u> forming the prelude or introduction to an opera, oratorio, etc.   They often combine <u>short excerpts</u> from the opera aria.
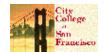
» Aria are songs within an opera.
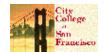
» https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpUJ4-qqV-I

Music Appreciation

» <u>Henry Purcell</u>, an English composer who wrote a famous opera in the Baroque era, Dido and Aeneas

Music Appreciation

» Henry Purcell (1659 - 1695):

  » Worked in Westminster for three different Kings over twenty-five years.In addition to his royal duties

  » Purcell also devoted much of his talent to writing operas, or rather musical dramas, and incidental stage music; but he would also write chamber music in the form of harpsichord suites and trio sonatas, and became involved with the growing London public concert scene.

Music Appreciation

» Dido and Aeneas

» Dido, the widowed Queen of Carthage, entertains the Trojan Prince Aeneas, shipwrecked on his way to Italy, where he will found a new Troy. Dido and Aeneas are in love. Witches plot Dido's destruction and the Sorceress conjures a storm, to break out when the royal couple are hunting, and the impersonation of Mercury by one of her coven. The storm duly breaks and the courtiers hasten back to town, while the false Mercury tells Aeneas he must leave Dido and sail for Italy. Aeneas and his sailors prepare to leave, to the delight of the witches. Aeneas parts from Dido, who kills herself once he has gone, her death lamented by mourning cupids.

Music Appreciation

» Dido's Lament
  » Short non metric section in the beginning then melody with Figured Bass (11 times)
  » Solo Emotional singing

  » https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGQq3HcOB0Y
  » https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twn8FvoLuug
  » https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_50zj7J50U