Letter to the Editor

from Michael Craubart

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-musical-logical disciplines.

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News Section

Composers


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


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

LOUIS ANDRIESSEN. Basiaut (première)—9 September/London, Expo/Block & Steel Dance Company.

GERALD BARRY. Triorchi Blues (German première)—23 May/Bad Rosenhaim/Ella Sevsikhi (vln). The Road (première)—29 May/Frankfurt/Hessicher 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.


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


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.

ELLIOCT CARTER. Lumen (UK première)—10 July/Cheltenham Festival/London Sinfonietta c. George Benjamin.


MICHAEL DAUGHERTY. Metropolis Symphony (UK première)—5 June/BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Enzique Diemecce.

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. Yn Pascal Tortelé.