

Trails for ORATORIO

Series intro.....

MUSIC: Haydn: The Creation 430 397 2 disc 2 # 2

KANE: In May, Sunday mornings on Radio 4, between 10 and 11, will be bringing you ORATORIO: a short season of less familiar oratorios, mostly sung in English. They'll be introduced; and for reasons of timing, somewhat edited as well. Join me, Ciaran Kane, for Oratorio, on Sunday mornings in May, after 10 o'clock.

MUSIC: s a m e to end

Sunday 6th May:

MUSIC: Arwel Hughes: Dewi Sant 96 R 26 # 1

KANE: The opening bars of an oratorio about the patron saint of Wales, St David, 'Dewi Sant'. It's for 3 soloists, chorus and orchestra, written in 1951 by Arwel Hughes, to a libretto by Welsh poet Aneurin Talfan Davies. It's the first in a short series of Sunday morning Oratorios, on Radio 4, from 10:00 to 11:00

MUSIC: s a m e

Sunday 13th May:

MUSIC: Elgar: Light of Life 97 R 02 # 1

KANE: The Meditation that begins the oratorio, The Light of Life by Sir Edward Elgar. It was first heard in 1896, and is the featured work in this Sunday morning's Oratorio presentation, second in a short series of Oratorios I'm introducing this month. You can hear it, slightly abbreviated, between 10 and 11 on Sunday morning on Radio 4

MUSIC: s a m e

Sunday 20th May:

MUSIC: De Almeida – “La Giuditta” CD 18780 disc 1 # 1 at 4:39

KANE: The gory image of Judith holding the head of Holofernes that she’s just cut off is the subject of numerous classic European paintings; and the Judith *story* a very popular one for composers of oratorios from the 16th right up to the 20th centuries. The story’s from the bible: and “Oratorio” this Sunday is a less violent version than most: “La Giuditta” by Francisco Antonio De Almeida. Radio 4, 10:00 to 11:00

MUSIC: s a m e

Sunday 27th May:

MUSIC: Beethoven -- Christus am Ölberge CD 65263 # 7

KANE: Beethoven wrote only *one* opera – and shortly before *that*, his only oratorio, “Christ on the Mount of Olives”, his op.85. It’s not often *heard* these days, but you can hear it this Sunday morning here on Radio 4 --- the *whole* of it, in fact, for it’s short enough to fit nicely into the weekly ‘Oratorio’ time-slot, from 10 to 11.

MUSIC: s a m e

Sunday 3rd June:

MUSIC: Einhorn -- Voices of Light CD 32147 # 1 at 1:23 >

KANE: A *different* kind of oratorio this week on Sunday morning: the most *recent* work in this short ‘season’ of oratorios, and one not based on a bible or religious story, but inspired by a 1928 silent movie classic, ‘The Passion of Joan of Arc’. The libretto is texts from Joan herself and from writings of medieval women. “Oratorio”, Radio 4, Sunday morning, after the 10 am news.

MUSIC: s a m e

Sunday 10th June 2007:

MUSIC: Sullivan --- The Prodigal Son CD 63618 # 1

KANE: He's best remembered now as the *second* part of a very successful partnership in light musical entertainment in the English-speaking world around 125 years ago..... a rather *unwilling* partner who yearned for more *serious* music. Arthur Sullivan (of 'Gilbert & Sullivan' fame) is the composer of this Sunday morning's ORATORIO, "The Prodigal Son", on Radio 4 just after 10.

MUSIC: s a m e

Sunday 17th June 2007:

MUSIC: Brixi --- Judas Iscariothes CD 70655 # 1

KANE: The cheerful Introduction for an oratorio you *might* have thought would be more sombre and solemn --- written for performance on Good Friday, its maybe *unusual* subject is Judas Iscariot, the disciple of Jesus who betrayed Him. It's the work of an 18th century Czech composer and organist Frantisek Xaver Brixi who composed many Masses, oratorios and requiems. 'Judas Iscariot' is the Oratorio on Sunday morning, radio 4, 10 to 11.

MUSIC: s a m e

Sunday 24th June 2007:

MUSIC: Mendelssohn --- Paulus CD 4634 disc 1 # 16

KANE: This grand setting of the old German chorale 'Wachet auf!' is from Mendelssohn's first great oratorio, 'Paulus' (or St Paul) It's a key work in the on-going story of oratorio, *not* so familiar perhaps, as his later "Elijah". It's a long work, in two parts, the first more *dramatic* than the second: you can hear most of part one in Sunday morning's ORATORIO, on radio 4, just after 10.

MUSIC: s a m e

Series intro:

MUSIC: Bixi -- Judas Iscariothes CD 70655 # 3 at 1:22 >>

KANE: The mini-series of "Oratorio" on Sunday mornings in May continues into June, with samples from the end of the 20th century, around the middle of the 19th, and from the 1760s: on subjects as diverse as Judas Iscariot, St Paul, Joan of Arc and the Prodigal Son story: ORATORIO, Radio 4, Sunday 10 a.m.

MUSIC: s a m e