
Letter to the Editor

from Michael Graubart

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-musicological disciplines.

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News Section

Composers

JOHN ADAMS. *The Nixon Tapes* (suite from *Nixon in China*) (première)—17 July/Aspen Festival/James Maddalena & other soloists, Aspen chamber Orchestra c. composer. *Hallelujah Junction* (European première)—27 July/Montpellier/pianists of Orchestre Philharmonique de Montpellier. *Slonimsky's Earbox* (London première)—1 September/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/Los Angeles PO c. Esa-Pekka Salonen.

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

KALEVI AHO. *Rejoicing of the Deep Waters* (UK première)—19 August/London, Royal Albert Hall/BBC Scottish SO c. Osmo Vänskä.

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

LOUIS ANDRIESEN. *Basquiât* (première)—8 September/Lisbon, Expo/Block & Steel Dance Company.

GERALD BARRY. *Triorchic Blues* (German première)—23 May/Bad Rosenheim/Ella Sevskikh (vln). *The Road* (première)—29 May/Frankfurt/Hessischer 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.

LUCIANO BERIO. *Ekphrasis Continuum II* (UK première)—23 April/Manchester, ISCM World Music Days/Penelope Walmsley-Clarke (sop), Hallé Orchestra c. Kent Nagano.

MICHAEL BERKELEY. *The Garden of Earthly Delights* (première)—8 August/London/Royal Albert Hall Prom/National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain c. Mstislav Rostropovich.

JUDITH BINGHAM. Bassoon Concerto (première)—6 May/Newcastle, City Hall/Stephen Reay (bn), Northern Sinfonia c. Jane Glover.

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

RORY BOYLE. Capriccio for orchestra (London première)—26 July/London, Royal Albert Hall Prom/National Youth Orchestra of Scotland c. Junichi Hirokami.

GAVIN BRYARS. *Doctor Ox's Experiment* (première)—15 June/London, Coliseum/English National Opera c. James Homes.

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.

ELLIOTT CARTER. *Luimen* (UK première)—10 July/Cheltenham Festival/London Sinfonietta c. George Benjamin.

RICHARD CAUSTON. *Tre Pezzi* (UK première)—17 June/London, RCM/RCM 20th Century Ensemble c. Edwin Roxburgh.

MICHAEL DAUGHERTY. *Metropolis Symphony* (UK première)—5 June/BBC Symphony Orchestra c. Enrique Diemecke.

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. Yan Pascal Tortelier.