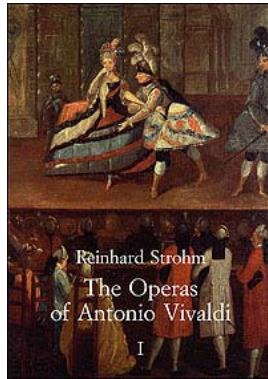


REINHARD STROHM

THE OPERAS OF ANTONIO VIVALDI

This book has the privilege of being the first to describe all the known operas by Antonio Vivaldi. It introduces the reader to the libretti and extant music of 45 operas, their circumstances of production, their public successes or failures, their revivals and European dissemination. It analyses the contributions of impresario, poet, composer, singers and other individuals to these fascinating works of art.

The author's research, started in the 1960s, has brought to light new evidence about the sources and has identified many new documents: we now know of 26 manuscript scores, c. 270 individual aria copies, 88 libretti of Vivaldian produc-



tions and their revivals, and 80 further pasticcio operas containing c. 130 Vivaldi arias as insertions. Throughout the book, Vivaldi is viewed as impresario, composer, conductor and trainer of performers. His personality, with all his artistic, financial and personal passions, is forcefully present. For the first time, Vivaldi emerges as a composer who devoted his best energies to the musical stage and to his singers.

The book narrates the operatic career of a stunning musical intellectual, who created ideas and images not only for his native Venice and contemporary European opera, but also for the musical theatre of today.

Antonio Vivaldi, compositore e impresario d'opera, rappresenta una nuova figura in ambito musicologico. Questo volume descrive, per la prima volta, tutte le 45 opere di Vivaldi oggi conosciute, mettendone a fuoco le fonti, i contenuti drammatici, le strategie compositive, gli allestimenti scenici, gli artisti e il pubblico. Questo studio presenta un importante capitolo della storia del teatro veneziano ed europeo, centrato su una sensazionale personalità a livello musicale e intellettuale.

Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venezia.

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