

Barber Opera - Steffani's Orlando Generoso

Locations	The Barber Institute of Fine Arts
Date(s)	Thursday 27th (19:00) - Sunday 30th September 2012 (17:00)
Contact	Tickets: £25, £20 Concessions, £15 Barber Friends, £5 Students Book in person at the Barber Reception desk or over the phone on 0121 414 7333. For more information, visit www.barber.org.uk (http://www.barber.org.uk/)
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THE BARBER OPERA Orlando Generoso by Agostino Steffani

Thursday 27 and Saturday 29 September, 7 pm
Sunday 30 September, 3 pm

Thomas Guthrie *Director*
Colin Timms *Conductor*



Steffani's Orlando Generoso

Attraction, infatuation, obsession, love? Reality or illusion? The noble Orlando is driven mad by such feelings and doubts. Mauro's libretto was topical at Hanover in 1691 and is relevant to society today. Based on Ariosto's epic *Orlando Furioso*, and set mainly in China, Steffani's opera explores human frailty in a wonderfully poignant and entertaining score.

Orlando **Michal Czerniawski** *countertenor*
Angelica **Elizabeth Cragg** *soprano*
Bradamante **Louise Alder** *soprano*
Medoro **Catarina Sereno** *soprano*
Galafro **Louise Innes** *mezzo*
Ruggiero **Marta Fontanals-Simmons** *mezzo*
Atlante **Nicholas Merryweather** *baritone*
Brunello **Alexander Aldren** *tenor*
Melissa **Jennifer Harper** *soprano*

The Musical and Amicable Society Baroque Orchestra
Oliver Webber *Leader*

'It was Steffani (1654-1728) who introduced young Handel to Hanover. You sense his influence on his junior at every turn – in the fluid recitative, the shortish yet beautifully turned arias, several carefully placed duets and the stylish orchestration. In these three performances [of *La Libertà Contenta*], warmly conducted by Colin Timms, there was beauty in just about every note.' Roderic Dunnett, review of the Barber Opera 2000, *The Independent*

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