Georgian Triangle Lifelong Learning Institute

Human Migration And Music

Session 5, 2022 – The Origins and Development of Theatre , Opera & Commedia dell’Arte

Our presentation this week explores how the theatre originated in ancient Greece and migrated around the world to the present day, where we will conclude with a look at *bel canto* opera and music theatre and their use of stock characters first found in ancient Greece. We explore the Roman New and Old comedy with a look at Plautus and Terence and the use of the Commedia dell’Arte stock characters to create one dimensional stories. We examine the invention of OPERA by the Italians in 1573 with the Florentine Camarata and its evolution to the Bel Canto style where we spotlight the 1817 opera buffa The Barber of Seville with a look at the influence of commedia dell’arte in the characters. We conclude with a brief look at the influence of commedia dell’arte on music theatre in the show *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*

Suggested viewing/listening

<https://youtu.be/ZVluIdcABKg> Joyce Donato (with a broken ankle) Una voce poco fa

<https://youtu.be/SZkKIXaIHyc> The full opera of *The Barber of Seville*  (2:35:41)

<https://youtu.be/J9IuUMsMnzk> Everybody Ought to Have a Maid (Funny Thing Happened…..