

Sektion II

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Handel's First Pastorals: Shaping Florindo and Daphne

Handel's third and fourth German operas were a pair of pastoral operas, Florindo and Daphne, beginning a line that would eventually include such diverse works as *Il pastor fido*, *Acis and Galatea*, *Orlando and Parnasso in festa*. Apparently composed before he left Hamburg around 1706, these two operas were not performed until early 1708. No scores have survived, only assorted fragments, often in incomplete form. Drawing on two recently recovered sources, it is here argued that at least one aria in Daphne was not by Handel but was inserted by another composer, probably the same one responsible for the plattdeutsch intermezzo added to that opera, *Die lustige Hochzeit*. A second aria can be newly reconstructed on the basis of a later adaptation.