

Mr. Handel's Celebrated

WATER MUSICK

Suite I

- 1: Introduction (Adagio e staccato)
- 2: Allegro
- 3: Andante
- 4: Air (Andante)
- 5: Bourée
- 6: Hornpipe
- 7: Minuet and Trio

Michael Pedder, Judy Bailey (Descant); Paul Scott (Treble);
Trevor Beckerleg (Tenor); Clare Shanks (Bass);
David Klausner (Bassoon).

Directed by Robin Sharp.

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An account of the first performance of part of the Water Music  
appears in the Daily Courant for 19th July 1717:

''...On Wednesday [the 17th] Evening, at about 8, the King (\*)  
took Water at Whitehall in an open Barge, wherein were also  
the Duchess of Bolton, the Duchess of Newcastle, the Countess  
of Godolphin, Madam Kilmanseck, and the Earl of Orkney. And  
went up the River towards Chelsea. Many other Barges with  
Persons of Quality attended, and so great a Number of Boats,  
that the whole River in a manner was cover'd; a City Company's  
Barge (\*\*) was employ'd for the Musick, wherein were 50 Instruments  
of all sorts, who play'd all the Way from Lambeth (while the  
Barges drove with the Tide without Rowing, as far as Chelsea)  
the finest Symphonies, compos'd express for this Occasion, by  
Mr. Hendel; which his Majesty liked so well that he caus'd it  
to be plaid over three times in going and returning. At Eleven  
his Majesty went a-shore at Chelsea, where a Supper was prepar'd  
and then there was another fine Consort of Musick, which lasted  
till 2; after which, his Majesty came again into his Barge, and  
return'd the same Way, the Musick continuing to play till he  
landed. ''

\* Played on this occasion by Dr. James Gower.

\* By kind permission of Mrs. Ann Gower.

The version to be played this evening is an arrangement  
of an arrangement by Anthony Baines.

The part of the Earl Marshal has been performed by Dr. Geoffrey  
Daniell.