

Handel

TESEO

Dramma Tragico,
Per **MUSICA.**

Teseo is a musical and emotional journey of epic proportion.

The centre of this extraordinary opera is the formidable enchantress Medea, rejected in love by both the hero and his father. Teseo is a gripping drama of sorcery and desperate love, with dazzling arias and colourful scoring for strings, oboes, recorders, bassoons and trumpets, performed on period instruments.

James Conway, whose recent acclaimed Handel productions include *Ariodante*, *Alcina*, and *Tolomeo*, directs a cast including famed Handel interpreter and recording star **Derek Lee Ragin**, and leading British sopranos **Jeni Bern** and **Gail Pearson**. Sung in Italian with the original English word-book in surtitle form.



ETO's 2006 Tolomeo

Haydn

Country Matters

L'infedeltà delusa



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Country Matters is a witty English language version of Haydn's finest opera, *L'infedeltà delusa*, written in 1773 for the court theatre of Esterhaza. Two women, one clever and the other pretty, are both frustrated in their attempts to marry the men they adore. Together, they turn the world upside down in the name of love.

This new production by **Liam Steel** (DV8, Complicité, Frantic Assembly, Stan Won't Dance) is a pacy Georgian romp packed with charm and humour, featuring some of Haydn's most colourful music. It is performed by an excellent young cast, and a period orchestra.

Think *Cold Comfort Farm* meets *Pride and Prejudice*, set to a lively, lovely allegro - and there you have *Country Matters*.

Also touring this Autumn

A new jazz opera with community participation

BRIDGE TOWER

BY **JULIAN JOSEPH AND MIKE PHILLIPS**

This exciting evening of jazz music in the form of an opera commemorates the 200th anniversary of the Act abolishing the slave trade in Britain. Composed by celebrated jazz musician **Julian Joseph** and written by author **Mike Phillips**, *Bridgetower* stars **Cleveland Watkiss** as the remarkable eighteenth century black musician and **Jacqui Dankworth** as escaped slave Mary Prince.

Born into slavery, *Bridgetower* became the prodigy of the Prince Regent, friend of Beethoven, violin virtuoso, and composer. Featuring a community choir along with jazz and classically trained singers (**Jonathan Peter Kenny**, who recently starred in ETO's *Tolomeo* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, **Franz Hepburn** and **Buddug Verona James**) and the **Julian Joseph Big Band**.

Directed by **Helen Eastman** (ETO's *Dido and Aeneas*).

Bridgetower will tour to Cambridge, Hackney, Warwick, Truro, Exeter, Malvern, Sheffield, Bexhill and Manchester. For more information contact ETO on 020 7833 2555 or visit englishtouringopera.org.uk

Bridgetower is a co-production between ETO and the City of London Festival