

Sept. 9, 2013

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

Born in Cremona

Most active in Mantua (1590-1613) and Venice (1613-1643)

Mantua – composed “to order” – first 2 operas, *Orfeo* and *Ariadne* written for Gonzaga family

Venice – *Maestro di cappella* at San Marco – secular and sacred music – chooses commissions based on interest and pay

Madrigals – 1587-1638; 8 books published in his lifetime; 9th published posthumously;

Books I-IV traditional in style; Book 5 introduces Basso continuo

Dramas – most are lost, some re-used in madrigals; *Combattimento di Tancredi e*

Clorinda (1624) is a “madrigal as drama”

Sacred music – masses, hymns, motets, etc.; best known work is *Vespers 1610*

Terms:

Madrigal

Prima prattica (First practice)

Seconda prattica (Second practice)

Artusi

Monody

Basso continuo

Genere concitato

Florentine Camerata

Concertato style

Opera

Aria / arioso / recitative

Accademia degli Incogniti

Works

Madrigals Book 5 – 1605

Scherzi musicali – 1607

Madrigals Book 6 – 1610 (cycle of 6 six-line poems)

Madrigals Book 7 – 1619

Orfeo – 1607

L'incoronazione di Poppea -- 1642

Vespers – 1610

Orfeo in class viewing

Toccatà (instrumental)

Prologue (see handout)

Text excerpts

Act II

Messenger's news p. 22

Tu se' morta, p. 25

L'incoronazione di Poppea in class viewing

Act I, scene 3, (see handout) and

Act III, final duet

Text excerpts, pp. 28-33

Act I, scenes 6 and 10

Act III, scene 6, 7, final duet

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