

PORPORA 1686-1768

complete stage works



REAL COMPANYIA ÒPERA DE CAMBRA
REAL COMPAÑÍA ÓPERA DE CÁMARA
ROYAL CHAMBER OPERA COMPANY

Juan Bautista Otero

BORN IN NAPLES IN 1686, NICOLA PORPORA WAS ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE ITALIAN OPERA COMPOSER AND SINGING TEACHER OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY. ONE YEAR YOUNGER THAN HAENDEL AND BACH, HE TAUGHT AT THE CONSERVATORIO OF SANT ONOFRIO (1715-1721) IN NAPLES AND AFTERWARDS HE WAS APPOINTED MAESTRO DI CAPELLA AT THE SERVICE OF PRINCE HESSE-DARMSTADT (1711-1725).

IN 1726 HE MOVED TO VENICE, TO BECOME MAESTRO AT THE OSPEDALE DEGLI INCURABILI, AND IN 1733 HE WAS APPOINTED PRINCIPAL COMPOSER OF THE OPERA OF THE NOBILITY IN LONDON, COMPETING WITH HAENDEL AT THE KING'S THEATER. BACK TO VIENNA AS SINGING TEACHER IN 1752, WHERE THE YOUNG HAYDN WAS AMONG HIS MAIN ASSISTANTS.

HE WROTE OVER 50 OPERAS, AND SEVERAL SERENATAS. WE START OUR 'BIBLIOTECA PORPORA' PUBLISHING TWO OF HIS MOST REFINED EARLY SERENATAS, 'L'ANGELICA' (1720) AND 'GLI ORTI ESPERIDI' (1721), -COMMISSIONED TO CELEBRATE THE ANNIVERSARY OF EMPRESS ELISABETH CHRISTINA OF AUSTRIA-, TOGETHER WITH, PROBABLY, ONE OF HIS MASTERWORKS, 'SEMIRAMIDE RICONOSCIUTA' (1729), IN THE THE FIRST VERSION OF METASTASIO'S LIBRETTO, COMPOSED FOR PORPORA'S FAVOURITE PUPIL: CARLO BROSCHI 'FARINELLI'.

BIBLIOTECA PORPORA PRESENTS THE CRITICAL EDITION OF PORPORA'S COMPLETE OPERAS, MOST OF THEM EDITED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OUR DAYS.