

Pepusch's ballad opera *Polly*, composed in 1729 to John Gay's libretto as a sequel to their highly successful *The Beggar's Opera* (1728), never reached the stage owing to government censorship. In 1777, Samuel Arnold completely renovated the score, which established his reputation as London's preeminent theatre composer. With its melodramatic tale reuniting Polly Peachum and Macheath in the West Indies and ending in Polly's marriage to the 'Indian prince' Cawwawkee, this 'island paradise' opera was a huge hit and remains enormously entertaining today.



Samuel
ARNOLD
(1740-1802)

Polly (1777)

Polly Laura Albino, Soprano
Mrs. Ducat Eve Rachel McLeod, Soprano
Damaris, Indian Scout Gillian Grossman, Soprano
Jenny Diver Marion Newman, Mezzo-soprano
Trapes Loralie Kirkpatrick, Mezzo-soprano
Cawwawkee Bud Roach, Tenor
Culverin Lawrence J. Wiliford, Tenor
Vanderbluff Andrew Mahon, Baritone
Morano Matthew Grosfeld, Bass
Ducat Jason Nedecky, Baritone

Aradia Ensemble • Kevin Mallon

1 Overture	4:49	16-20 Entr'acte: Dances	36-41 Act III	11:56	47 Air 7	1:57
2-15 Act I	21:16	of the Pirates	42-46 Dances of the		48-50 Act III	
		21-35 Act II	23:05 Indians	5:19	Appendix	5:12

Recorded at St. Anne's Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from 14th to 16th July, 2008
Producers: Bonnie Silver and Norbert Kraft • Engineer: Norbert Kraft • Editor: Bonnie Silver

The libretto can be accessed at www.naxos.com/libretti/660241.htm

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Cover: *Lavinia Fenton (1708-60) in the rôle of Polly Peachum* by William Hogarth (1697-1764)
(Burghley House Collection, Lincolnshire, UK / The Bridgeman Art Library)

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Playing Time
78:37



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