

Dora Bright (1862 – 1951)

Catalogue (@17/2/2021)

The preliminary catalogue of works by Dora Bright was prepared by 'Maj-Britt Peters' (?) on the basis of the Pazderek 1904 catalogue. This was updated by Silke Wenzel in a paper under the 'Musik und Gender im Internet' project undertaken by the Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg, and also Sophie Fuller in her PhD thesis on Women composers.

Further work reviewing digital library catalogues from across the globe, lists of works in articles and news sites, as well as contemporary websites and research, are incorporated into this listing. Items not in the previous catalogue(s) and new information regarding each work is highlighted in green, and where existing copies of works have been identified these are noted in red.

Revised and updated by Anthony Bilton.

Opera

Tuong Lung's Shadow

Opera based on the novel of the same name by Charles William Doyle.

Three Act opera based on the story of life in the Chinese quarter of San Francisco. Opera written fully (libretto & music) by Dora Bright (DB). Mentioned first in the Shepton Mallet Journal 31/10/1902 and also Dresden Neuste Nachrichten 18/10/1902.

Reported first in RAM Club News No.10 10/1903 p.9. Taken by DB to Germany and submitted to the Director of the Dresden Opera House by DB reported in the London Daily News 23/10/1902. The Sketch 29/10 1902 reports from the German paper Neuste Nachrichten the music of the opera "is so captivating, and, above all, holds on so strongly, that one exclaims in astonishment, 'can this be the work of a woman' ".

The Waltz King

Light Opera (Libretto: Frank Stayton), 1926 ("The Times", November 25, 1925, p. 12)

First reported in the Westminster Gazette 25/11/1926 as to be performed in the New Year.

Performed 20/5/1935 at Webber Douglas Theatre London as reported in The Stage

16/5/1935. Libretto and lyrics reported in The Stage 16/5/1935 as by Arthur Davenport and

Rodney Bennett. The Illustrated London News 1/1/1927 reports the score is woven from

Strauss's wealth of waltzes through which a transcription of 'the blue danube' runs as a *leit-motif*. © D79847 26/2/1927

Copy of libretto in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, ML50 B8526 W2

Suggested third opera? Referenced without name in the Radio Times April 8 1937 p.58

Ballets and Theatrical Works

The Dancing Girl and the Idol

Ballet, 1903. The Times, February 6, 1903, p. 7. Oriental Fantasy. Performed at Chatsworth 1903 and then 1904 as requested by King Edward IIV, Sheffield Daily Telegraph 6/3/1903. Performed in Alloa Scotland 29/1/1903 The Dundee Telegraph 30/1/1903. London Evening Standard 6/1/1904. Played at the Theatre Francais Paris 1/5/1909 reported in the Sheffield Independent 26/4/1909. First mentioned as music by DB reported in The Sketch 13/9/1899. Music score for vocal and piano, includes scene for 'Un Jardin Indian'. Handwritten copy Stamped Paris 1910 at The Royal Academy of Dance

Dances

Valse – Mrs Knatchbull - Somerset Standard 11/1/1907

The Dryad

Pastoral Fantasy, Empire Theatre London. "The Times", September 8, 1908, p. 9. Elkin & Co. Ltd 1909. A dance play in two tableaux first performed by DB on 1/1/1907 at a small theatrical party at Babington House reported in the Somerset Standard 11/1/1907. First performance at the Playhouse 25/3/1907 reported by the Westminster Gazette 26/3/1907. Toured with Adeline Genée in America, Australia and New Zealand** Reported in The Stage Year-Book 1908 as played at The Playhouse in 1907. © C208598 27/5/1909 for piano. Music Score for Piano. Dora Bright's working copy of the piano manuscript, Tableau II only, includes stage directions for the dancers at The Royal Academy of Dance. Copy at the British Library. Published copy available from Boosey and Hawkes.

The Faun

Ballet, 1911. Premiere: October 3, 1910, Empire Theatre London. "The Times" October 10, 1910, p. 12. Reported in the Stage Year-Book 1910. First played at the Empire Theatre 10/10/1910 reported in the Globe 11/10/1910.

The portrait

A Dance-Play. Premiere: November 24, 1910, Prince of Wales's Theatre, London. See "The Times," November 25, 1910, p. 12. First played at The Prince of Wales theatre on 23/11/1910 reported in the Daily Telegraph and Courier 17/11/1910. © E259387 31/5/1911
From The Portrait: Colinette. Chansonette from 'The Portrait' – Joseph. Williams, 1911.
Copy in the British Library. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.B

The Abbé's Garden

Mimodrame in 2 episodes – founded on an incident in Guy Maupassant's "clair de lune", World Premiere: March 31, 1911, Globe Theatre London. See "The Times," March 21, 1911, p. 11; see. also "The Times" of April 1, 11, p. 10.

Poor Pretty Columbine

Wordless dance play – music by Dora Bright – reported in The Stage Year Book – 1913 – played 3/6/1912 at the Kilburn Empire as reported in The Stage 6/6/1912

La Camargo

Miniature Ballet. Premiere: May 27, 1912. "The Times" of April 22, 1912, p. 14. From Gavotte for orchestra, London: Elkin & Co., ca.1912. First performance The Coliseum London 20/5/1912 The Stage 25/4/1912. Performed at the New York Metropolitan Opera 3/12/1912. Toured with Adeline Genée in America, Australia and New Zealand** Snippet of music from Elkin & Co score in The Queen 28/9/1912. Set in the boudoir of Mlle Camargo the Palace of Versailles 1730. © E286498 7/6/1912

Gavotte, Passepied, Sarabande and Flemish Dance at the British Library, London. Published copy available from Boosey and Hawkes. Gavotte in the Royal Academy of Music library. Hand written music manuscript for Camargo solo in Royal Academy of Dance Adeline Genée archive.

The Wood Nymph

"The Times" of April 22, 1912, p. 14.

In Haarlem There Dwelt

Music drama based on P. van der Meer, 1912. First performed at The Three Arts Club Matinee at His Majesty's Theatre, London on 21/5/1912 – a Dutch Idyll music drama in four pictures from a story by Pieter van de Meer – reported in RAM Club news no. 36 May 1912. Played at His Majesty's Theatre on 21/1/1912 Westminster Gazette 2/5/1912. Playhouse London on 22/1/1913 - as reported in the Stage Year Book 1914.

Monday's Child

Musical fancy – children ballet arranged for 2 pianos. Premiere: December 28, 1912. Court Theatre "The Times" of December 16, 1912, p. 10. Based on the nursery rhyme 'Mondays child is fair of face'. Danced by the children dancers of RAM at Babington House 19/7/1938 – Somerset Standard 22/7/1938.

Hand-written working copy of score at the Royal Academy of Dance

The Colour of Life

(Captain Janssen)

See "The Times," January 31, 1914, p. 11. played at the Coliseum by Mme Karina 2-28 Feb 1914 – reported in The Art of Ballet by Mark E. Perugini and The Era 4/2/1914 Dora Bright score 'Danses des Couleurs' written for the The Colour of Life (orchestrated by Henri Lucas), held at The Royal Academy of Dance

La Danse

Ballet Music compiled and arranged by Dora Bright. ("An Authentic Record by Adeline Genée of Dancing and Dancers between the Years 1710 and 1845")**, 1914. The Musical Times, April 4, 1914, p. 6. The Globe 6/4/1914. Performed at the New York Metropolitan Opera 17/12/1912. Toured with Adeline Genée in America, Australia and New Zealand** Includes works by Lully, Boccherini and Gluck with Gavotte Minuet and Chaconne – The Era 1/1/1913. The Era 8/4/1914 and Pall Mall Gazette 8/6/1914 reports the work as 7 tableau and Metropolitan Opera House outlines the ballet and music:

Prelude – old pavanne and passacaille (J.F.Rebel)

Tableau 1 - Passe-pied Lully dances – Triomphe de l'amour (passepied), Le menage de Moheré (Chaconne)

Rameau's Rigaudon (Dora Bright)

Tableau 2 – Gavotte in F (Padre Martini), Rigaudon (J.P. Rameau), Corelli Chaconne with variations (Dora Bright)

Tableau 3 – Jean Baptiste Lully – Tambourin and Musette (J. P. Rameau), Colinette (Gretry) Old Breton air for strings, Don Giovanni: Serenade (Mozart)

Tableau 4 – Les Petite Riens: Pas de Trois (Mozart), Minuet in A (Bocherrini), Paris and Helen: Gavotte in G (Gluck)

Tableau 5 – La Valse – Fantasié on Waltz Themes (Strauss), Promotionen Waltz (Strauss), Who is Sylvia (Strauss), Das Fischermädchen (Meyerbeer), Du Bist Wie Eine Blume (Schumann), Lieder ohne Worte (Mendelssohn)
Tableau 6 – Dances – Mazurka (Chopin), Valse (Chopin)
Tableau 7 – Pas de Quatre - Coppélia: Ballade (Delibes)

Adapted as a suite and played by DB at the Bournemouth Winter Gardens as reported in the Nottingham Evening Post 12/4/1928, relayed on the radio Hull Daily Mail 19/4/1928

Debut de Valse

Music by Johann Strauss and DB at the Torquay Pavillion reported in the Pall Mall Gazette 8/6/1914

The Princess and the Pea

Ballet pantomime after Hans Christian Andersen, 1915. "The Times" of June 28, 1915, p. 3. Played at the Haymarket 2/7/1915 (matinee) as reported in The Stage Year-Book 1916 and The People 20/6/1915.

Dance Ballet Suite

(based on the fairy tale "The Shoes That Were Danced to Pieces"). Premiere in Bradford: November 4, 1915. "The Musical Times" from January 1, 1916, p. 48. Shipley Times & Express 26/11/1915. 'Suite de Ballet' reported in the Newcastle Journal 30/7/1915.

The Dancer's adventure

Ballet. 1915. The Times, October 12, 1915, p. 11. Played at the Coliseum on 11/10/1915 with Adeline Genee reported in the Globe 29/9/1915

My Official Wife

Play 1916. Incidental music written for the play which appears to have never appeared. Reported in Clifton Society journal 27/1/1916 with 4 Russian dances being premiered at 70 Ennismore Gardens, London. House concert in aid of the funds for 'British Prisoners of War and Interned Civilians in Germany'.

The Magic Pipe

One act pantomime by Jules Delacre. "The Times" June 7, 1917, p. 3. Performed at the Royalty Theatre 26/6/1917 reported in the Stage 7/6/1917. Sunday Mirror 10/6/1917 reports atmosphere Latin quarter Paris 1838 carnival time

The Love Song

Ballet, 1932. The Times, Jan. 30, 1933, p. 8; of February 3, 1933, p. 8. This includes: Pavane - Minuet de la Cour - Passe Piéd - Galliard - Rigaudon. Premiere at the Drury Lane Theatre 7/6/1932, gala charity matinee, by Adeline Genee in aid of the Hertford Hospital in Paris. Danced by Adeline Genee at the Coliseum reported in The Stage 2/2/1933. Televised on the London National Programme 11.00-11.30 15/3/1933 – The Scotsman. American premiere in aid of British War Relief Benefit at the Civic Opera House Chicago 3/11/1940 danced by Nina Stroganova

Ballet

Untitled, composed for the Guildhall School of Music. "The Musical Times" April 1, 1934, p. 357. Specially written ballet music performed by the Guildhall School of Music 6/3/1934 – written in conjunction with Ben Frankell and Sydney Harrison, as reported in The Musical Times April 1934 p357

My Lady's Minuet

Played at Babington House by the RAM dancers – Western Daily Press 26/7/1939.
Sung at Babington by Glynn Eastman and danced by Moira Tucker and Audrey Godfrey reported in the Western Daily Press 26/7/1939 as part of a concert to raise funds for the roof of Babington Church.

Incidental Music

Silas Ruthyn ~~Uncle Silas~~

(Seymour Hicks and Laurence Irving after S. LeFanu), 1893. Written specially for a performance of Silas Ruthyn played on 14/1/1895 at the Pleasure Garden Theatre in Folkstone reported in the Folkestone, Hythe, Sandygate and Cheriton Herald 12/1/1895. Played at the New Theatre Royal Lincoln, 15/3/1895.

The Dream of Scrooge

(JC Buckstone after C. Dickens), 1901. Reported in RAM Club news no. 1 1901 p.10 to be played at the Vaudeville Theatre. London Daily News 9/9/1901. Played on BBC radio Manchester 24/12/1928 21.35 by the Northern Wireless Orchestra – p811 of Radio Times 21/12/28. Music played on the radio by the Northern Radio Orchestra advertised in the Halifax Evening Courier 24/12/1928.

The Hampton Club

(Seymour Hicks based on the French stage adaptation “Suicide Club” by MM. Louzy-Eon and “Armont” by Robert Louis Stevenson), 1909. Cf. “The Times” of November 1, 1909. p. 8

Garrick

Adaptation of the old story and the old play by Max Pemberton – incidental music by Dora Bright -played at the Coliseum 14/7/1913 as reported in the Stage Year-Book 1914.

Songs

Wither?

Text by HW Longfellow, 1882. The Musical World 1882.

Copy in [The British Library](#)

The Task of the Flower

RAM Concert 7/7/1883 reported in the Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News 14/7/1883 and Lichfield Mercury 20/7/1883

The Song of the Shirt

(Thomas Hood) - RAM Concert 1884

O Summer Storm

RAM Concert 1885. Sung at Mechanics Hall Frome 25/1/1897 Somerset Standard 28/1/1897

My Lady Sweet Arise

(W Shakespeare) – RAM Concert 1885

Sign No More Ladies

(W Shakespeare) – RAM Concert 1886

I Heard a Brooklet Gushing

(Longfellow) – 2/1882 referred to in The Life and Works of Sir Edward German

12 songs

(by Robert Herrick and William Shakespeare, among others), London: Novello and Co, 1889.
First published in 1896 reported in The Gloucester Journal 29/2/1896.

1. To blossoms (RH) dedicated to A J Hipkins,
2. To daisies (RH)
3. The primrose (RH)
4. To music (RH) Sung at Mechanics Hall Frome 25/1/1897 Somerset Standard 28/1/1897
5. Song (Anon)
6. Hark! Hark! the lark. (WS) dedicated to W Macfarren First played as Hark! The lark, at Shakespeare Society's meeting on 14/5/1886
7. Who is Sylvia? (WS)
8. It was a lover and his lass (WS)
9. The maid's garland (H Hailstone) dedicated Christine Mackenzie
10. Finland love song (Thomas Moore) dedicated to Marie James*
11. The reaper and the flowers (H Longfellow) dedicated to Mrs Whitehouse*
12. When all the world is young, lad. (Charles Kingsley) dedicated to Edward German
10 & 11 played by DB and sung by Miss Mackenzie at Christ Church Boys School as reported in the Middlesex County Times 30/11/1889

Copy in The British Library

To Daffodils

First performed at RAM concert 22/2/1884. Song. London. Elkin & Co. 1904 St James Hall London The Globe 14/6/1904 and The Musical Times 1/7/1904 p467. Announced as new song in the Somerset Standard 21/1/1899 and sung at local Concert in Hemington by Mrs Paget and Piano by DB

Copy in British Library. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.B

The Splendid Tattered Flag

Swan & Co, 1888. Written by the Duchess of Somerset and set to music specially written by DB for the benefit of and with all proceeds to the Transvaal war fund reported in the Globe 26/2/1900. Suggested as her first theatrical composition by The Sketch 11/12/1901. Prelude and incidental music reported in the Globe 4/10/1901. Performed to the King and Queen at Sandringham as reported in The Buxton Advertiser 7/12/1901.

Copy in The British Library.

There sits a bird

Song, London: Leonard, undated. Words by Thomas Ingoldsby. 1891 Pitz & Hatfield, London and Leipzig

Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.B – available to download as .pdf.

Dedication Song

To the marriage of Mr Herbert Gladstone and Miss D Paget reported in the Somerset Standard 8/11/1901

C'est mon ami

(music de la reine, Marie Antoinette) played at Babington House concert 8/1/1902 reported in Somerset Standard 10/1/1902

Six songs from "The Jungle Book"

Text by Rudyard Kipling, London: Elkin, ca.1903. Night song in the jungle

1. Seal lullaby E minor
2. The mother seal's song E major
3. Tiger, tiger!
4. Road-song of the bandar-log
5. The song Toomai's mother sang to the baby.

Dedicated to Henry R Eyres. First performed by Denis O'Sullivan (Baritone) at The Steinway Hall, London 14/10/1902 as reported in The Argonaut 13/10/1902. Reviewed in The Queen 27/6/1903. Heard for the first time with orchestra at Bath Pump rooms 9/5/1936 with DB present.

Copy in the Royal College of Music library (edition 1 – high voice, edition 2 – low voice). Signed copy in the Boston City Library, USA. Published copies available from Boosey and Hawkes and Musicroom.com. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.B

The Ballad of the Red Deer in Eb and F

Song. Text by Robert Herrick, London: Elkin & Co, 1904. Reviewed in the Musical Times 1/4/1904.

Copy in British Library. Copy in Royal College of Music library. Published copy available from Boosey & Hawkes. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.W 7 pg song

Star of My Night

13/6/1904 – St James Hall London The Globe 14/6/1904 and The Musical Times 1/7/1904 p467

Messmates

("He gave us all a goodbye cheerily")

Song, text by Henry Newbolt, London: Elkin, ca.1907. First reported sung at the Bechstein Hall by Mt Bispham 19/1/1907 reported in the Westminster Gazette 20/1/1907

Copy in Royal Academy of Music library and British Library. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.B. Published copy available from Boosey and Hawkes.

A Child's Garden of Verses

Six songs, 1908. First heard at a recital in the Broadwood Rooms on 22/1/1908 – recorded in RAM Club News no.24 May 1908 London Daily News 23/1/1908

1. It is very nice to think the world is full of meat and drink
2. Every night my prayers I say
3. In winter I get up at night
4. Marching song

I know a lady sweet and kind

Song, text by Robert Herrick, 1913 © E317166 16/8/1913 Chappell & Co. Ltd. London Mentioned in The Times Obituary to Dora Bright 23/11/1951.

Copy in The British Library. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.B

The Orchard Rhymes

13 Nursery Rhymes with actions. Written with Ethel Mary Boyce, London: Novello, 1917. Advertised in The Musical Times 1/5/1917 p.233 - School Songs book 260. 2 pieces by DB The rose is Red (no. 3) and Monday's Child (no. 11)– see The Musical Advertiser 1/7/1917 p.333. © 1917 for both. Also 'Girls and Boys' and 'Ring a Ring O Roses' included by DB.

Copy in The British Library. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1993.B78 O6, (piano acc.)

'Hame Hame Hame' and 'The rose is red'

(see above for work with Ethel Boyce) in the School Music Review (no. 308) advertised in The Musical Times 1/2/1918 p.90

Ring-a-ring o'Roses

(in collaboration with Ethel Mary Boyce), London: Novello and Co, 1922.

Copy in The British Library.

Sing a Song of Sixpence

(in collaboration with Ethel Mary Boyce), London: Novello and Co, 1922.

Copy in The British Library.

The donkey

Song. Text by GK Chesterton. 1936. Dedicated to Harold Williams.

Copy in The British Library. Copy in the Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA, M1621.B
Published copy available from Boosey and Hawkes.

Orchestral works

Concert piece (Concertstucke)

for piano and orchestra in C sharp minor, 1885. Premiere: RAM Concert at St James Hall July 3, 1885, "Musical Times" August 1, 1885, p. 479.

Variations on an original Theme of Sir George Alexander Macfarren for piano and orchestra

also in a version for two pianos, Edwin Ashdown 1888. Dedicated to W Macfarren. Theme reported as written specially for DB by G A Macfarren in The Queen 24/11/1894 as the last theme he wrote.

Copy in The Royal Academy of Music library, The British Library – also 4 hand version in The British Library. Published and available from Hildegard Publishing.

Concerto for piano and orchestra No. 1 in A minor

1888 Played Crystal Palace 1891 First played at RAM concert 24/7/1888 in St James Hall reported in the London Daily News 25/7/1888. Played at Prom Concert Covent Garden 26/9/1888 reported in the London Evening Standard 27/7/1888. Played in Dresden on 8/10/1889 for the Dresden Philharmonic Society reported in The Queen 5/10/1889. Reported in the Sheffield Independent 2/4/1891. Crystal Palace programmes held in Bodleian Library Collection (Mus. 318 d.28). Well reviewed in The Times 30/3/1891 and played at the Crystal Palace were the Western Daily Press 18/1/1899 suggest "the work had been fully revised and in parts re-written by her". Also played in Leipzig by DB and Dr Reinecke in a 4-hand version reported in the Shepton Mallet Journal 1/3/1895.

Copies of score and 2 piano version – valerielangfield.co.uk. CD version SOMMCD 273. Copy at the Royal Academy of Music.

Fantasia for Piano and Orchestra in G minor

1890 Daily Telegraph & Reporter (London) 24/10/1890 reports "The new work thus first introduced to public notice, though called a Fantasia though is more of a concerto somewhat freely constructed - played in Dresden and Koln (18/10/1890) recently. Daily Telegraph & Reporter (London) 31/10 1890 further report on Die Zeitung article relating to the DB concerts in Dresden and Koln stating "a pianoforte concerto, full of original and beautiful ideas, excellent workmanship, and very praiseworthy instrumentation, was received in the warmest manner". The Queen 25/4/1891 reports upcoming visits to Dresden, Koln and St Petersburg – states "works include concerto in A minor, Fantasia in G minor, suite for violin and pianoforte, album of songs, several duets for two pianofortes, some pieces for flute, etc. She is engaged on an orchestral suite (three of five movements written) and a quartet for piano and strings."

Spanish Dance Suite for Orchestra

1891 – Prelude, Liebesleid, Seguidilla, Romance, Finale – played Cologne 10/1891 (Sophie Fuller PhD Thesis), to be played in Cologne 1891.

Fantasia for piano and orchestra in No. 2 in G major

1892 – G major first movement in 4/4 sonata form with cadenza leading to a short 6/8 serenata in the tonic minor and finally a rondo in G major in 2/4 time. Sheffield Independent 3/3/1892 reports "DBs Fantasia will be one of the novelties of the forthcoming season of the Philharmonic Society, is in the key of G, and is in one movement, although practically it is that of a condensed concerto. It was written on the return of DB from Germany last October, so that it is the young composers latest work." First performance and snippets (p17) of themes in Philharmonic Society programme 5th Concert 11/5/1892 at St. James Hall London. This was mis-advertised and mis-reported as being in G Minor in many papers and the original programme, before and shortly after the concert. The Times 13/5/1892 correctly ascribes it as being in G major and the snippets published in the programme show G major for the first and last movements.

Orchestral Overture

1893 suggested in The Times 26/12/1893 played at a RAM concert Also mentioned as Orchestral Entr'act in London Daily News 21/10/1893 Also Western Daily Press 30/10/1893

Love song for orchestra

London: Edwin Ashdown, 1897. Liebesleid first performed at the Henry Wood Queens Hall Promenade Concert 6/3/1896 advertised in the Morning Post 2/3/1896.

Variations for piano and orchestra in F major

Paris 1910 Played 1st time in the UK on BBC Radio 8/4/1937 6.40pm– Radio Times p705 – suggests written in Paris in 1912.

Copy in the collection of the Royal Academy of Music, London. Copies of score – valerielangfield.co.uk. CD version SOMMCD 273.

Concertstück for six drums and orchestra

"The Musical Times" of May 1, 1915, p. 305. Premier at Harrogate concert as reported the Yorkshire Post & Leeds Intelligence 6/4/1915.

Suite of 4 Russian Dances for orchestra

First performed in London 21/1/1916 as reported in the Clifton Society 27/1/1916, reported as written as part of a dramatised version of 'My Official Wife' as yet unperformed. Played by the BBC Theatre Orchestra in w/e 20/1/1939 as reported in the Somerset Standard 20/1/1939.

Suite Bretonne

For flute and orchestra, 1917. "The Times" of August 3, 1917, p. 9 and August 25, 1917, p. 9., played at Promenade Series No.25 22/9/1917. Reported in The Globe 4/8/1917 as being part of the 1917 promenade series. 3 movements Aubade, Chanson Varie, Angelus and dance reported in Freemans Journal 24/9/1917 as 3 movements, 1. Lyric in minor key, 2. Chanson Varie, 3. Angelus and Dance; and Liverpool Daily Post 25/9/1917. Reviewed in The Musical Times 1917 p512.

Vienna for orchestra

"The Times" of April 23, 1927, p. 8. Performed at 68th Halle Season Concert 18/3/1926 – see concertprogrammes.org.uk

Suite of 18th-Century Dances for piano and orchestra

Undated

Hand-written working copy of score at The Royal Academy of Dance

Chamber music

Air and Variations for string quartet

1888 London Evening Standard 26/7/1888 DB wins the Charles Lucas medal*** for the composition – Illustrated London News 4/8/1/888. Played as part of the 5th season of the Westminster Orchestra Society as reported in the Era 7/12/1889

String Quartet

1888 The Times 26/12/1893 suggests played at RAM concert in the year.

2 sketches (Trifles)

For flute with pianoforte accompaniment. Performed in Swansea on 22/8/1889 The Musical Times 1/9/1889

Suite for Violin & Piano (Suite of Five Pieces)

London: Edwin Ashdown

First played at Princes Hall 30/4/1890 as reported in The Queen 3/5/1890 – consisting of Prelude, Scherzino, Scotch air and variations, Romance and Moto Perpetuo. The Times 26/12/1893 suggests played at concert in Hampstead in the year. Reported in The Musical Times 1/5/1890 p297 as an original work by DB played on 23/4/1890 in the Princes Hall together with some songs.

Romance and Sequindilla

For flute and piano Rudall Carter & Co, 1891. Played at Stanley Hall Hampstead reported in the Hampstead and Highgate Express 2/5/1891.

Copy in The British Library. Published copy available from juneemersonwindmusic.com.

Suite of 5 pieces for violin and piano

Dedicated to J T Carrodus (Sister Ada's husband). Edwin Ashdown Ltd., 1891

Copy in The British Library.

Piano quartet in D major

1892. Musical News p.564 16/6/1894. The Times 26/12/1893 suggests played at Mr Dannreuther concert in the year. Played in Hanover Germany October 1892 as reported in Western Morning News 20/10/1892. The Graphic 24/3/1894

alternatively

Quartet for piano and strings

(viola, violin and violincello) – Allegro Maestoso in D major, air with eight variations – 1 in 2/4, 2 in 6/4, 2 in 2/4, 4 scherzino 6/8, 5 vivace 2/4, 6 in 2/4 tonic major, 7 in 4/4, 8 in 3/4 leggierissimo. Specially written for Madame Serruy's 2nd Matinee on 10/2/1894 – reported in the Norfolk News 17/2/1894

Quintet in D major

For Piano and Strings Performed 26/4/1893 Princes Hall Concert

Sketches a la Russe

Flute, cor-anglais, harp and piano. Played at Wigmore Hall with DB At the piano reported in The Era 15/10/1924

Work for two solo instruments and piano

1924 (premier). "The Times" October 6, 1924, p. 10.

Two pieces

(two pieces for cello (or violin) and piano), London: Elkin & Co., ca.1934.

Including:

No.1 Das Fischermädchen

A melody by Meyerbeer.

Copy held in the British Library

No. 2 Polka à la Strauss

Copyright outlined in Library of Congress Catalogue of Copyright 29/5/1934.

Copy in The Royal College of Music library. Recording by Catherine Wilmers – features on ASV recording of Women composers. Copy held in the British Library

Piano works

Sonata in G

Played from MS at RAM concert 1/7/1882 as reported in the Musical World 8/7/1882

Sonata in Eb

Played from MS at RAM concert 11/11/1882 as reported in the Musical World 18/11/1882

Two Sketches

F# minor and A – first performed at RAM concert on 6/10/1883. London: Webb & Co, 1884. Dedicated to W Macfarren – The Atheneum 16/8/1884 p.219

Copy in The British Library.

Three sketches

Reported in Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser 13/1/1894 to be played at Gentleman's concerts 15/1/1894. Perhaps the Two sketches from 1883 with a new addition.

Theme and Variations in F sharp ~~major~~ minor for two pianos), 1886. "Musical Times" of August 1, 1886, p. 480. Theme and Eighteen variations in F # minor on an original theme for 2 pianos – Brighton Gazette 13/7/1886

Suite in G minor

RAM Concert 19/11/1886 played at the Musical Artists Society, Willis Rooms London and reported in the Queen 2/4/1887, also The Era 9/4/1887 reports of a Scherzetto and Barcarolle as part of the work. Sheffield Daily Telegraph 27/10/1887 reports work as Prelude, Romance, Scherzetto, Barcarolle, Finale-presto. The Musical Times 1/12/1886 p719, records the work played at St James Hall on 19/11/1886.

Variations on a Theme of Purcell

For 2 Piano RAM Concert 1887 The Queen 25/6/1888

Variations in Eb

(on a theme by J E German) – performed at RAM concert 15/10/1887.

Variations on an original Theme of Sir George Alexander Macfarren for two pianos in G minor

(Variations on an original theme by Sir George Alexander Macfarren for two pianos), 1888 First reported played at the St James Hall 17/2/1888 in the London Evening Standard 18/2/1888

(new edition: Bryn Mawr, PA: Hildegard Publ. 2000, ed. V. Sophie Fuller) 1894 edition Edwin Ashdown and 1937 edition Edwin Ashdown held in The British Library

Duet for 2 Pianos

Musical News 1/7/1891 p.392 10/7/1891 p.384

Piano Quintet

1891 – The Atheneum 29/4/1893 p.549

Three Pieces for Piano

London: Edwin Ashdown, 1895. Musical Times, March 1, 1895, p. 170. Reviewed in The Queen 2/2/1895

1. Berceuse - dedicated to Mrs Graham G minor
2. Love song: Liebeslied Duettino – dedicated to Lady Katherine Thyme Bb major
3. Tarantella G minor

Copies of Berceuse Duettino and Tarrantella in The British Library. Full copy of all three items in Cambridge University Library – non-borrowable (Mus.24.62)

Humouresque

Played by Ethel Leginska at the Aelioan Hall on 6/5/1909 reported in the Morning Post 7/5/1909

Romanza for piano

Dedicated to Ethel Boyce. London: Edwin Ashdown, ca.1922. Single work published 1889 Copy in The British Library.

Scherzetto for piano

London: Edwin Ashdown, ca.1922.

Romanza and Scherzetto

Published as the pair in 1922

Reported in The Queen 23/2/1889 as being in Eb and Bb respectively. Organ version of Romance played on 19/3/1922 in Runcorn as reported in the Runcorn Weekly News 24/3/1922. © E544395 and E544396 respectively 10/8/1922.

Copy in The British Library

Arrangements and transcriptions

Neu Wien

Strauss, Johann. New Viennese Waltz piano transcription/arrangement by Dora Bright, London: Elkin & Co., ca.1924. Recorded on HMV 12" 78rpm no G-C2505. Hull Daily Mail 7/4/1924 notes "the waltz of Johann Strauss has been freely arranged for the piano by Dora Bright and is published at 3s. It is full of bright and sparkling tunes assisted by an insistent and pleasing rhythm". © E582327 5/2/1924.

Copy in The British Library

Siciliano and Gigue from the Suite in D minor

Arne, Thomas A., piano transcription by Dora Bright, London: Elkin & Co., 1948.

Copy in The Royal Academy of Music library and Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA (missing - not on shelf). Copy in The British Library

~~Meyerbeer, Giacomo. Two pieces for violoncello or violin and piano arranged by Dora Bright, 1934.~~

~~In it: 1. The fisher girl (see Chamber Music above)~~

Une Soirée de Vienne

First performed at the Halle in Manchester as reported in The Sheffield Daily Telegraph 7/12/1925. Specially written for the Halle series. Performed on the BBC radio 7/1/1926

Other

Melody

Played on the organ at the wedding of Miss Nancy Parish to John Paget at St Margaret's Westminster as reported in the Shepton Mallet Journal 24/11/1944

Works removed

Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No. 2 in D minor

1892

Sophie Fuller PhD footnote - Who's Who (1913/15) and International Who 's Who (1918) outlines Piano Concerto no. 2, performed in Cologne, 1892.

Who's who incorrectly ascribe the Cologne performance as a Piano Concerto - this was most likely the Fantasia no. 2 in G major as 'written' for the Philharmonic Society, played 11/5/1892 and subsequently performed in Cologne and with the Piano Quartet in D major in Hanover, reported in the Western Morning News 20/10/1892. The Philharmonic 5th concert programme 11/5/1892 p17 describes the fantasia in the form of a condensed concerto.

There is no reference in any musical magazine or newspaper of a concert, which includes a piano concerto in D minor or mention of a second piano concerto, other than in outlines of DBs work post the Who's Who entry. Other than in reference to the Fantasia (G major and G minor) which are described as similar to a condensed concerto.

Location of works

Other than those identified above in red the following link also identifies known versions through the worldcat internet site:

[Bright, Dora \[WorldCat Identities\]](#)

Footnotes

* Sung at Christ Church Boys School (Ealing?) by Miss MacKenzie as reported in The Middlesex County Times 30/11/1889

** Wikipedia on Adeline Genee

***Lucas Prize awarded and based on the best composition written on a subject provided by the examiners 2 months prior to the award. DB wins the silver medal against 9 other students.

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References

Initial references used in the development of this catalogue are listed below. However, it should be noted that there are a number of websites which have short outlines of Dora Bright's life and works, which appear to be mainly copied from the Wikipedia site and short list of works. This new catalogue above supersedes all other previous listings.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dora_Bright (December 2020)

https://mugi.hfmt-hamburg.de/Artikel/Dora_Bright (December 2020) - Under renovation at February 2021.

<https://www.trubcher.com/blog/dora-bright>

Composers during the British Musical Renaissance, 1880-1918 – Sophie Fuller PhD Thesis 1998, Kings College London, ISNI 0000 0001 2460 2952. (December 2020)