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Introduction to Man and Music/Music and Society Series, Part II

We continue with the series of reviews devoted to the volumes of the Man and Music/Music and Society series (general editor, Stanley Sadie) that was begun in the previous volume of this journal. As noted at that time, the books are a supplement to the television programmes called “Man and Music,” which were produced by Granada TV in the United Kingdom in the mid-1980s. The publication of the books has followed in random order, and the series has only recently been completed.

During the past ten years there have been significant changes in the way that musicologists approach the study of music, as well as significant gains made in our knowledge of early repertoires. As will be seen below, reviewers report that some of the earlier volumes now appear dated, and already need revision. Furthermore, I am pleased that several of our reviewers have questioned the lack of specific Canadian content in the series. We have a musical heritage of which we can be proud; it should be recognized by those outside of this country.

Paul F. Rice


A review at this time of a book published in 1989 might more honestly call itself a retrospective. This is especially true given the rapid evolution of the societally-oriented “New Musicology” over the past few years.¹ A number of