# History of English opera

# Faber and Faber - Opera of the Baroque



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The sea nymph Galatea is loved by a shepherd Acis, who is murdered by his jealous rival, the giant Polyphemus. Basses have a long history in opera, having been used in opera seria in supporting roles, and sometimes for comic relief as well as providing a contrast to the preponderance of high voices in this genre.

## The history of George Gershwin's Summertime

An early leader of this movement was Ferruccio Busoni, who in 1913 wrote the libretto for his neoclassical number opera Arlecchino first performed in 1917.

### Opera in English

Libretto for Thomas Shadwell and Matthew Locke's Psyche 1675 In 1690, the theatre manager Thomas Betterton 1635-1710 decided to risk putting on another operatic work, the first since the ill-fated Albion and Albanius.

### Opera of the Baroque

This production left the work unaltered, but later revivals involved varying degrees of revision.

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