
MUSIC APPRECIATION**FEBRUARY report by Kathleen Howcroft**

It was Opera again for our meeting this month. PAGLIACCI – meaning – CLOWNS. An Italian melodrama in a prologue and two acts. Music and libretto by Ruggero Leoncavallo written in 1892. It is a dramatic tale of love and betrayal between 1865 – 1870 set in Calabria Southern Italy.

The opera revolves around a commedia del arte troupe. The main characters are Canio/Pagliaccio, tenor, the head of the travelling theatre troupe and Nedda, soprano, his wife. Beppe, tenor fellow actor, Tonio, baritone, the Clown and Silvio, baritone, local townsman, and secret lover of Nedda.

In an act of revenge Tonio tells Canio that Nedda is having an affair, like he suspected. During a performance Canio confronts Nedda and stabs her. Silvio, Nedda's lover, attempts to save her but gets stabbed by Canio as well. Very dramatic!

The famous song from Pagliacci is “Vesti la giubba” put on the costume, the show must go on sung at the conclusion of the first act.

We watched a DVD of Pagliacci recorded in 1984 at La Scala, Milan. The leading part of Canio, leader of the group of strolling players was played by Placido Domingo.

Thank you to Roger for the loan of the DVD and to everyone who helped to make the morning a success once again.

NO MEETING IN APRIL – EASTER WEEK

FRIDAY 15TH MAY - TO BE ANNOUNCED

All Meetings 10 am Millennium Room

Cotherstone Village Hall

Entrance £2 - £2.50 includes Tea/Coffee & biscuits

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