A guide to this summer's classical concerts

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stretches majestically to the Atlantic Ocean; views of dunes and water are designed to make even the most zealous Philistine covetous.

I attended the first night of Purcell's Dido and Aeneas. Immediately evident was the warm, full sound of the Castle Hill Festival Orchestra under Thomas Kelly, and the total surround effect of music and action. Both space and light were carefully used to best advantage. The Medusa-borne swarm of venomous witches was chilling. Janilna Noorman's performance of Dido's Lamia, if not as awe-inspiring as that of a Janet Baker, certainly possessed gravitas and gently, but surely, plucked the heart-strings.

The Castle Hill season continues with Bach Concerts on July 25 and 26, a Telemann concert on July 27 including 'Calntata or Funeral Music for an Artistically-Trained Canary Bird Whose Desire Brought the Greatest Sorrow to his Master,' L'infedelta Delusa, a comedy by Haydn, on August 1 & 2, chamber music from Vienna on August 3, a celebration with fireworks on August 8 & 9, and Beethoven chamber music on August 16. Tickets range from $6-8 and are available for half of those prices to ID-clad students on day of performance. Regrettably, only Sunday concerts are accessible by public transportation, to Ipswich T-stop. For information, call 356-4070.

*Water Music, Inc. presents a series of water-borne concerts departing from the Aquarium, Boston, on most Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays until September 11. Programs include the Bay Chamber Orchestra, the Herb Pomeroy Quintet, and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band. Tickets range from $4.25 for classical concerts to $9.50 for Preservation Hall and information can be had by calling 876-8742 or BOSTIX.

The DeCordova Museum has arranged a summer program in their Performing Arts Series. Weekly performances are given Sundays at 3:30 in the outdoor Amphitheatre, and include the Ariel Chamber Ensemble, the Brubeck Brothers, and the Boston Repertory Ballet. Admission is $4. You can get to DeCordova by taking the 73 bus from Harvard Square to Waverly, and the commuter train from Waverly to Lincoln. Further information call 259-8355.

One concert remains in the MIT "Candlelight Concerts" series, on July 24, when the Eredly Duo will perform music by Weber, Mozart and Darius Milhaud in the Building 14 Hayden Gallery Courtyard at 7:30, free.

*The Boston Lyric Opera Company will perform a double bill: Mozart's The Impresario, and Bernstein's Trouble in Tahiti, free, at City Hall Plaza tomorrow night at 8. Take the T to Government Center.

*The Boston Pops perform nightly on the Esplanade across the Charles from MIT until July 27.

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