

The Emergence and Influence of Early European Opera: A Historical and Analytical Study

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Abstract : This paper explores the origins, development, and cultural impact of early European opera, particularly focusing on its inception in late 16th century Italy and its subsequent spread across Europe. Through an in-depth analysis of key operas and performers, this study demonstrates how opera served as both a reflection of and an influence on the social, political, and economic landscapes of early modern Europe. The discussion includes the role of public opera houses, the commercialization of the art form, and the significance of the prima donna, supported by references to relevant literature and historical documents.

Keywords : early European opera, baroque opera, Florentine camerata, prima donna, cultural impact

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