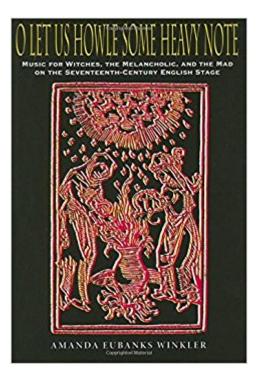


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# O Let Us Howle Some Heavy Note: Music For Witches, The Melancholic, And The Mad On The Seventeenth-Century English Stage





### Synopsis

In the 17th century, harmonious sounds were thought to represent the well-ordered body of the obedient subject, and, by extension, the well-ordered state; conversely, discordant, unpleasant music represented both those who caused disorder (murderers, drunkards, witches, traitors) and those who suffered from bodily disorders (melancholics, madmen, and madwomen). While these theoretical correspondences seem straightforward, in theatrical practice the musical portrayals of disorderly characters were multivalent and often ambiguous.O Let Us Howle Some Heavy Note focuses on the various ways that theatrical music represented disorderly subjects  $\tilde{A}$ ¢ $\hat{a} - \hat{a}$ ¢those who presented either a direct or metaphorical threat to the health of the English kingdom in 17th-century England. Using theater music to examine narratives of social history, Winkler demonstrates how music reinscribed and often resisted conservative, political, religious, gender, and social ideologies.

#### **Book Information**

Hardcover: 248 pages Publisher: Indiana University Press (November 1, 2006) Language: English ISBN-10: 0253348056 ISBN-13: 978-0253348050 Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies) Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item Best Sellers Rank: #4,897,224 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 inà Å Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Composers > Purcell #2124 inà Å Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Musicals #7197 inĂ Å Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Forms & Genres > Opera

#### **Customer Reviews**

"Winkler's book is an outstanding contribution to the social and political history of musical theater in London from the age of Shakespeare to the rage for Italian opera in the first decade of the eighteenth century."  $\tilde{A}\phi \hat{a} \neg \hat{a} \phi$ Renaissance Quarterly"... In keeping with the instability of the seventeenth-century English stage, Amanda Eubanks Winkler refuses to bind her subversive characters in neat packages. I find her observations of negotiated trends, which do not always fit into tidy theoretical boxes, honest conclusions of an extremely complex period of English cultural

life.... Whether onstage or within Winklerââ ¬â,¢s text, these unruly characters refuse to be absolutely contained." â⠬⠢MEGAN McFadden, Vol. 13 2009"... an outstanding contribution to the social and political history of musical theater in London from the age of Shakespeare to the rage for Italian opera in the first decade of the eighteenth century." â⠬⠢Linda Phyllis Austern, Northwestern University, Renaissance Quarterly, Vol. 61.1 Spring 2008"[T]he book [is] of great interest to anyone who wishes to explore the complex ways in which the assumptions and expectations of society conditioned the representation and reception of madness and witchcraft in the 17th-century English theatre, and the crucial role music played in this interaction." â⠬⠢Early Music"Seventeenth-century England provides an outstanding backdrop for thisstudy, which focuses on theatrical characters generally associated with mental disorder.... Operascholars should find this work helpful, and specialists in gender studies will gain much fromWinkler's discussion of stereotypes, role reversals, pathological diagnoses, and so on....Recommended." <math>â⠬⠢Choice

A multidisciplinary study of the uses of music in 17th-century English theater.

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