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by José Ángel García Landa

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# John Gay (¿1685-1732)

 (English neoclassical poet, b. Barnstaple, Devon; impoverished gentry; lost money in the South Sea Bubble; Tory satirist in London, associated to Pope, Arbuthnot, Parnell, Swift and the Earl of Oxford; wrote satires vs. Walpole, d. London)

**Works**

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\_\_\_\_\_. *Three Hours After Marriage.* Comedy. Written in collaboration with Pope and Arbuthnot. Acted 1717.

\_\_\_\_\_. (attr.). *Acis and Galatea.* Libretto for Handel’s opera. Written *c.* 1718, pub. 1732.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Sweet William’s Farewell to Black-Eyed Susan." Ballad. 1720.

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\_\_\_\_\_. *The Beggar's Opera.* Realized from the original airs by Benjamin Britten, as it was acted at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln's Inn Fields, 1728. The English Opera Group: Roger Jerome (The Beggar), David Hartley (The Manager of the Company), Brian Handley (The Stage Manager), David Kelly (Peachum), Bernard Dickerson (Filch), Anna Pollak (Mrs Peachum), Janet Baker (Polly Peachum), Kenneth McKellar (Captain Macheath), Bryan Drake (Lockit), Heather Harper (Lucy Lockit), Edith Coates (Mrs Trapes), Joan Edwards (Jenny Diver), Philip May (Ben Budge), David Hartley (Man of the Mint), Jack Irons (Tom Tipple), John Gibbs (Crook-Finger'd Jack), Bernard Dickerson (Wat Dreary), Andrew Snarski (Harry Paddington), Brian Handley (Slippery Sam), Patricia Brigenshaw (Mrs Coaxer), Sally Langford (Dolly Trull), Carolyn Maia (Mrs Vixen), Angela Jenkins (Betty Doxy), Joan Clarkson (Mrs Slammekin), Alice Hynd (Suky Tawdry), Sheila Amit (Molly Brazen). The English Chamber Orchestra / Meredeth Davies. Prod. and des. Colin Graham. TV film from The Royal Opera House Covent Garden, dir. Charles R. Rogers. BBC TV, 1963. Online at *YouTube (Oliver Drake)* 26 Dec. 2012.\*

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Related works

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