Coronations are the grandest of all state occasions. This is the first comprehensive in-depth study of the music that was performed at British coronations from 1603 to the present, encompassing the sixteen coronations that took place in Westminster Abbey and the last two Scottish coronations. Range describes how music played a crucial role at the coronations and how the practical requirements of the ceremonial proceedings affected its structure and performance. The programme of music at each coronation is reconstructed, accompanied by a wealth of transcriptions of newly discovered primary source material, revealing findings that lead to fresh conclusions about performance practices. The coronation ceremonies are placed in their historical context, including the political background and the concept of invented traditions. The study is an invaluable resource not only for musicologists and historians, but also for performers, providing a fascinating insight into the greatest of all royal events.

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Music and Ceremonial at British Coronations

From James I to Elizabeth II

MATTHIAS RANGE
For H.M.

Meinen lieben Eltern in Dankbarkeit
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Abbreviations and conventions

AM  Acta Musicologica
BJ  The British Journal
EECM  Early English Church Music, published for the British Academy (London: Stainer and Bell).
CJ  The Country Journal, or, The Craftsman
DC  The Daily Courant
DT  The Daily Telegraph
EM  Early Music
f.  (after number): and the next following
ff.  (after number): and the two following
fo.  folio
fos.  folios
FP  The Flying-Post
GM  The Gentleman’s Magazine, and Historical Chronicle
GSJ  The Galpin Society Journal
Harmonicon  The Harmonicon, a Journal of Music
HJB  Händel-Jahrbuch, published for the Georg-Friedrich-Händel-Gesellschaft (Halle, 1928–).
JRMA  Journal of the Royal Musical Association
LEP  London Evening Post
LEPC  Lloyd’s Evening Post and British Chronicle
LG  The London Gazette
LJ  The London Journal
MB  Musica Britannica: A National Collection of Music (London: Stainer and Bell, 1951–).
ML  Music and Letters
MLAI  The Mirror of Literature, Amusement, and Instruction
MLMS  The Musical Library. Monthly Supplement
Abbreviations and conventions

MH
The Musical Herald
MQ
The Musical Quarterly
MT
The Musical Times (1844–1902: ‘and Singing Class Circular’)
MW
The Musical World, a weekly record of Musical Science, Literature, and Intelligence
NG
OED
PA
The Public Advertiser
PL
The Public Ledger or, Daily Register of Commerce and Intelligence
PM
The Post-Man
pp.
pages
PS
QMM
The Quarterly Musical Magazine and Review
r
(after number) recto side of a page; included only if otherwise ambiguous
SJC
St. James’s Chronicle or the British Evening Post
SJEP
The St. James’s Evening Post
TO
The Observer
v
(after number): verso side of a page
WAC
The Westminster Abbey Chorister
WEP
The Whitehall Evening Post or London Intelligencer

Newspapers

I have relied mainly on the Nichols newspaper collection and other collections in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Where necessary this has been complemented with the Burney Collection in the British Library, and the newspaper archive in Colindale for more recent titles.

Libraries and Archives

Where convenient I have used abbreviated references for library collections, based on RISM sigla (Répertoire International des Sources Musicales). Full details are given at the first mention and in the bibliography.
Dates

Until 1752 the Julian Calendar was used in Britain (so-called Old Style/OS). The New Year began on Lady Day, 25 March, and the dates were also a few days behind those of the Gregorian Calendar which was used on the Continent (New Style/NS).¹ To avoid confusion with the dates given in older sources the original dates will be retained, i.e. in Old Style. However, for dates between 1 January and 24 March the year is given in both ways, Old and New Style.

Spelling and Punctuation

Quotations from original sources follow these as closely as possible; any changes are indicated in square brackets.

So as to avoid confusion, the spelling 'choir' is used only for the musical body. For the part of the church building with the same name the traditional spelling 'quire' is used.

Translations

Unless otherwise stated all translations are the author's.

References

Unless otherwise stated all manuscript references refer to Libraries in Great Britain. Details about the manuscripts are, if necessary, given only in the main text, but not in footnotes; they can be found in the bibliography.

For printed sources full references in footnotes are given only when a title appears for the first time; after that a short form is given (usually the surname and short title). The abbreviations 'p.' and 'pp.' for page(s) are given only in cases of ambiguity; 'fo.' and 'fos.' for folio(s) are always given.