

**Jean-Philippe Rameau**  
***Le Temple de la Gloire (The Temple of Glory)***

Reconstruction of the original 1745 version  
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PROLOGUE (L'ENVIE)

ACTE PREMIER (BÉLUS)

INTERMISSION

ACTE SECOND (BACCHUS)

TROISIÈME ACTE (TRAJAN)

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SYNOPSIS

The plot centers around admission qualifications to an allegorical Temple of Glory, to which King Louis XV, foremost among the audience, would have anticipated certain entry. However, Apollo and other representatives of peace, happiness, and virtue spurn a succession of applicants from classical antiquity who represent envy, tyranny, militancy, and debauchery. The contrast of these vices with their corresponding virtues invites a panoply of musical styles and characterizations: demons and Muses, shepherds and warriors, priestesses and satyrs. In the end, only the Roman Emperor Trajan is admitted by the goddess Glory to her temple, after he shows magnanimity in freeing his conquered captives. For the French monarch fresh from victory on the battlefield, the opera was a cautionary tale rather than the apotheosis he expected.

—Bruce Lamott

First performed in the theater in the riding school in the Great Stable (Grande Écurie) at Versailles, November 27, 1745.

Sung in French with English supertitles.