

Dear Mr Gower,
With regard to the debate on the extension of copyright.

I am against this idea of extension for the following reasons.

1. Seriously dedicated companies such as Naxos, Sepia, Living Era, Flare, Memoir, etc. who present very fine recordings of vintage music will be put in jeopardy of going out of business.
2. These companies provide a superb service by presenting recordings complete with very fine artwork and historical information second to none for the serious collector. The major recording companies are hopeless at this.
3. The recordings are sold at incredibly reasonable prices easily affordable to the music student let alone the conservatories, colleges and universities who require this audio material as part of their music libraries.
4. Through the smaller companies I have been able to access wonderful recordings of the wonderful stage musicals of the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s, the major companies who own the master recordings never seem to issue the recordings themselves.
5. I am a retired theatre director who has collected recordings for many years. If the copyright had already been extended I would have been deprived of the reissues that have already been produced by the specialist smaller companies.
6. If for instance the copyright on the works of Gilbert and Sullivan had not ended in 1960. New recordings of the works would not have been possible and we would not have the variety of recordings of these works that we do today.
7. We must be able to preserve these important and historical recordings and I see no reason why the expert specialist companies mentioned above should be deprived of continuing the fine work that they have already begun.

I do hope that the extension of the copyright will not take place.

Yours sincerely,
Ken Caswell