

# Literature in Opera

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## Brief overview of Literature used in Opera

- Florence Italy 16<sup>th</sup> Century
- Recreate ideals of classic tragedy
- Christolle's description of Drama  
"words sweetened by music"

## Beginning of Opera as we know it

- Monteverdi
- Florentine Camerata
- Themes from Greek and Roman Tragedies
- Religious themes based on events in the bible
- Joining of music and drama to form opera

## Early Opera Composers

- Monteverdi
- Cavalleri
- Cavalli
- Legrenzi

## Cities producing Operas 16<sup>th</sup> Century

- Mantua
- Rome
- Florence

## Writers used by Opera Composers

Aeschylus 4    Dumas 9    Poe 5  
Hans Christian Anderson 9    Pushkin 20  
Beaumarchais 4    Euripides 10  
Lord Byron 11    Goethe 12    Schiller 14  
Racine 7    Cervantes 7    Gogol 9    Sardou 7  
Corneille 8    Gozzi 4    Dante 11    Hugo 14  
Scott 10    Dickens 4    Moumier 10    Moliere 10  
Shakespeare 22    Dostoyevsky 5    Sophocles 5



## Writers used by Opera Composers continued

Tolstoy 6 Henry James Voltaire 15

Hawthorne Wilde 6 A. Sullivan

The Bible

Oral tradition stories

## Tacitus and Seneca

- Coronation of Poppea

Monteverdi

## Tacitus and Seneca

- Monteverdi
- Orfeo
- Story of Orfeo
- Playlist selection 1

## Virgil's Aeneid

- Henry Purcell 1689
- Dido and Aeneas
- Story of Dido and Aeneas
- Playlist 2

## Lord Byron

- Verdi
- I Due Foscari
- The story of the two Foscari
- Playlist 3 Jose Cura Tenor

## Shakespeare

- Verdi
- Otello
- The story of Otello
- Playlist 4 Renee Fleming and Larissa Diadkowa



# Goethe

- Gounod
- Faust
- The story of Faust
- Playlist 5 Placido Domingo and Samuel Ramey

# Shakespeare

- Verdi
- Falstaff
- Story of Falstaff
- Playlist 6 Fugue

# Victorien Sardou

- Puccini
- Tosca
- The story of Tosca
- Playlist 7 E lucevan le stelle

Jussi Byoerling Tenor singing Cavaradossi

# Goethe

- Massenet
- Werther
- The story of Werther
- Playlist 8 Luciano Pavarotti



## Pushkin

- Glinka
- Ruslan and Ludmilla
- The story of Ruslan and Lyudmilla
- Playlist 9

## Bible Book of Judges

- Saint-Saens
- Samson and Dalila
- The story of Samson and Dalila
- Playlist 10 Mon couer s'ouvre voix  
Maria Callas

# Folklore

- Wagner
- Tristan and Isolde
- The story of Tristan and Isolde  
French Tale
- Playlist 11 Domingo and Voight Love Duett

# Voltaire

- Bernstein
- Candide
- The story of Candide
- Playlist 12 Overture

## Hawthorne

- Eyerly, Scott
- House of Seven Gables
- The Story of The House of Seven Gables
- Playlist 13 Phoebe Good Day

## Hans Christian Anderson

- Dvorak
- Rusalka
- Story of Rusalka  
also from Pushkin, Frederick de La Motte Fouquet's Ondine
- Playlist 14 Renee Fleming  
O silver moon