

The History and Geography of Opera



Claudio Monteverdi
1567-1643

From
Its Origins

Through
The Golden Age



Giacomo Puccini
1858-1924

Art Axelrod



The Guild of Mercury Opera Rochester

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Opera is Music Drama

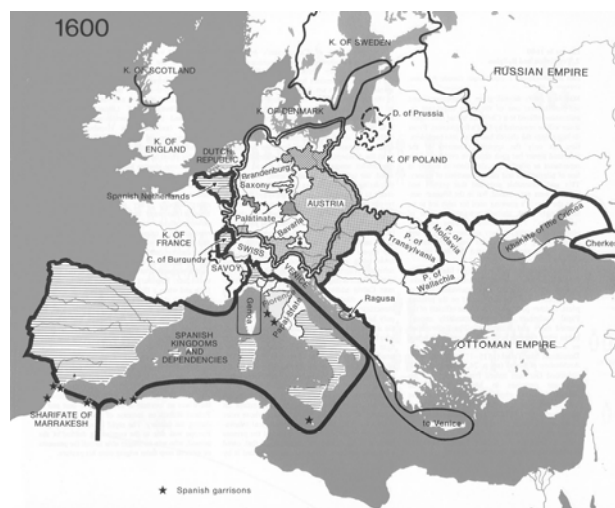
- ◆ A fully staged drama;
- ◆ The drama is carried primarily by the music.
The text conveys the story and is a framework for the music;
- ◆ There must be dramatic continuity within the music, as well as the text;
- ◆ These are what distinguish opera from other forms of musical stage, such as Broadway musical or Viennese operetta.
- ◆ **So how did it get started?**

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Europe - 1600



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Roots of Early Opera

1. Reviving Classical Greek Drama
 - Renaissance Scholars believed that Greek drama was sung or chanted rather than simply spoken.
 - Girolamo Mei, 1519-1594: *De modis musicis antiquorum* (not formally published, but written 1568 to 1573).
2. 16th Century Italian Madrigals and Oratorios
 - "Through-composed" setting of short poems;
 - ◆ Through-composed: Each line of text has different musical setting reflecting rhythm and sense of words;
 - Heroic and sentimental subjects;
 - Madrigal Cycles were produced.
 - Polyphonic
3. Instrumental *Intermedi* (or *Intermezzi*)
 - Musical interludes between acts of Renaissance and Baroque plays.

The Florentine Camerata

- ◆ Musicians, poets, scholars and patrons.
- ◆ Hosted by Giovanni Bardi, Conte di Vernio (1534-1612) in Florence.
- ◆ Sought to revive ancient Greek music and drama.
- ◆ Studied Mei's manuscript.
- ◆ Members included:
 - Jacopo Peri (1561-1633)
 - Giulio Caccini (1551-1618)
 - Ottavio Rinuccini (1562-1621)
 - Vincenzo Galilei (c.1525-1591)
 - Girolamo Mei (via correspondence)

Vincenzo Galilei

c.1525-1591



- ◆ Father of Galileo; a musician, teacher and scholar and a scientist in his own right.
- ◆ Corresponded with Mei; received Mei's manuscript.
- ◆ *Dialogo della musica antica et della moderna* (Dialog Concerning Ancient and Modern Music), 1581.
- ◆ Based on Mei's doctrines. Attempted to revive practices of ancient Greek drama.
- ◆ Attacked Polyphony, dominant practice at the time, and advocated Monody as the only means of expressing poetry in music.
 - Monody: Only single melody line with appropriate pitches and rhythms derived from inflections of text.

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The First Operas

*(Excluding Opera-Oratorios
and Madrigal Cycles)*

1. Jacopo Peri, *Dafne*, 1597 (mostly lost)
Poem by Rinuccini.
2. Peri, *Euridice*, 1600;
3. Giulio Caccini, *Euridice*, 1600;
Both to a poem by Rinuccini.
4. Claudio Monteverdi, *L'Orfeo*, 1607

Source: *Norton Concise History of Western Music*

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The First Operas

(as we understand it today)

1. Jacopo Peri, *Dafne*, 1597 (mostly lost)
Poem by Rinuccini.
2. Peri, *Euridice*, 1600;
3. Giulio Caccini, *Euridice*, 1600;
Both to a poem by Rinuccini.
- 4. Claudio Monteverdi, *L'Orfeo*, 1607**

Source: *Norton Concise History of Western Music*

Some Vocabulary

- ◆ **Recitative:** Sung passage with the rhythm of speech, rather than song or dance.
- ◆ **Aria:** Sung passage which is lyrical and song-like.
- ◆ **Arioso:** Form intermediate between Aria and Recitative.
- ◆ **Continuo:** A sort of "shorthand" notation specifying the instrumental accompaniment, often improvised, of the vocal parts.
- ◆ **Ritornello:** In early opera, melodic orchestral passages between sections of a recitative.

The Journey – The Beginning

- ◆ Mantua, Italy – 1607
 - Monteverdi, *L'Orfeo*
- ◆ France – 1674
 - Lully, *Alceste*
- ◆ England – 1738 (Italian Tradition)
 - Handel *Xerxes*
- ◆ Germany – 1762 (Italian Tradition)
 - Gluck *Orfeo ed Euridice*
- ◆ Germany – 1782 (German *Singspiel*)
 - Mozart, *Abduction from the Seraglio*
- ◆ Italy – 1816 (*Opera Buffa*)
 - Rossini, *Barber of Seville*
- ◆ Germany – 1821
 - Weber, *Der Freischütz*

The Journey – The Golden Age

- ◆ Italy – 1831 (Bel Canto)
 - Bellini, *Norma*
- ◆ Italy – 1853
 - Verdi, *La Traviata*
- ◆ Germany – 1862
 - Wagner, *Die Walküre*
- ◆ France – 1883
 - Delibes, *Lakmé*
- ◆ Italy – 1892
 - Leoncavallo, *Pagliacci*
- ◆ Russia – 1898
 - Rimsky-Korsakov, *Sadko*
- ◆ Italy – 1924
 - Puccini, *Turandot*

Mantua, 1607 Claudio Monteverdi

Toccatà and Prologue from *L'Orfeo*

Montserrat Figueras (s), La Musica – 2002
La Capella Real de Catalunya, Le Concert
des Nations, Jordi Savall, cond.
Grand Teatre del Liceu, Barcelona

What's Happening – 1607

- ◆ Shakespeare, *Measure for Measure* – 1604
- ◆ Cervantes, *Don Quixote* – 1605
- ◆ Rembrandt born – 1606
- ◆ Founding of Jamestown – 1607
- ◆ Galileo observes Moons of Jupiter – 1610
- ◆ El Greco, Rubens active
- ◆ Bach won't be born until 1685

Orpheus and Eurydice Flee the Underworld – 1635
Peter Paul Rubens (1577 – 1640)



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1607 – L'Orfeo

Claudio Monteverdi, 1567 - 1643

Libretto by Alessandro Striggio after poem
Euridice by Ottavio Rinuccini.

First Performance, 1607, Ducal Palace of
Mantua

Setting of the Greek legend of Orpheus and
Euridice.

Fanfare "Toccata" (Overture); Prolog: *La
Musica*, the Personification of Music, introduces
the drama to the aristocratic audience

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Toccatà and Prolog from *L'Orfeo* (conclusion)

[Ritornello

Hence desire spurs me to tell you of Orpheus,
the immortal glory of Pindus and Helicon,
Orpheus who drew wild beasts to him by his singing,
and who subjugated Hades by his entreaties.

Ritornello

Now while I alternate my songs, now happy, now sad,
let no small bird stir among these trees,
no noisy wave be heard on these riverbanks,
and let each little breeze halt in its course.

Ritornello]

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France, 1674 Jean-Baptiste Lully

Ritournelle . . . "Il faut passer . . ."
from *Alceste* (Audio)

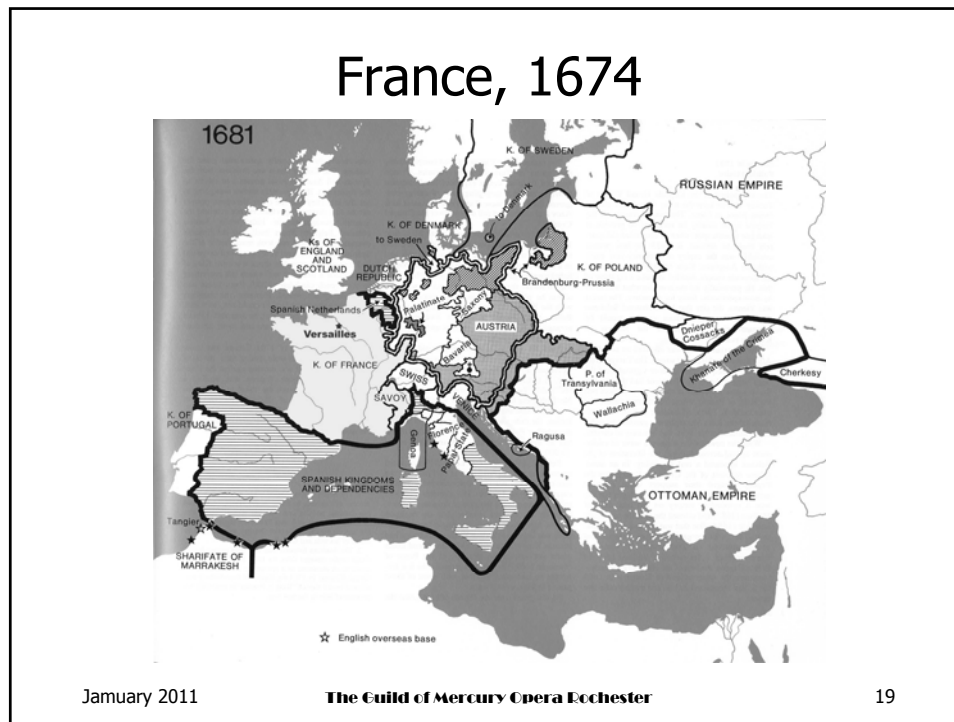
Gregory Reinhart (b) - 1991

La Grande Ecurie et la Chambre du Roy,
Ensemble Vocal Sagittarius, Jean-
Claude Malgloire, cond.

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What's Happening – 1674

- ◆ Louis XIV is reigning
- ◆ Czar Peter the Great born – 1672
- ◆ Vermeer active
- ◆ Christopher Wren active
- ◆ Antonio Stradivari active
- ◆ Greenwich Observatory founded – 1675
- ◆ Isaac Newton, *Opticks* – 1675
- ◆ La Salle explores Great Lakes – 1678-79
- ◆ Bach won't be born for 11 more years

Louis XIV and His Family – 1670
Jean Nocoet (1615 – 1673)



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1674 – *Alceste*,
or The Triumph of Hercules

Jean-Baptiste Lully, 1632-1687

Libretto by Phillipe Quinault after the play
Alcestis by Euripides.

First Performance, 1674, Paris

Setting of the Greek legend of Alcestis and
Admetis.

Charon, the boatman who conveys the shades
of the dead across the river Styx to Hades,
cheerfully sings about his work

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England, 1738
George Frideric Handel
**“Fronde tenere e belle ... Ombra mai
fu” (“Largo”) from *Xerxes*
(*Italian Tradition*)**

Paula Rasmussen (ms) – 1989
Ludwigshafener Theaterchor, Christophe
Rousset, cond.

What's Happening – 1738

- ◆ Hogarth, Boucher, Tiepolo active
- ◆ William Byrd founds Richmond, VA
- ◆ Linnaeus, *Systema naturae* – 1735
- ◆ JS Bach *Mass in B minor* – 1738
- ◆ Samuel Richardson, *Pamela* – 1740
- ◆ Samuel Johnson, Jonathan Swift, Voltaire active
- ◆ First cuckoo clocks in Black Forest District

*Alexander the Great & Campaspe
in the Studio of Apelles – 1740*
Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1696 – 1770)



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1738 – *Xerxes*

George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

Libretto by Silvio Stampigli set by
Giovanni Bononcini (1694) after *Serse*
by Nicoló Minato, set by Cavalli (1654)

First Performance, 1738, London

Legendary Xerxes seeks love.

Xerxes, pining for love, serenades a plane
tree.

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Germany, 1762 Cristoph Willibald von Gluck

Gluck's "Reform Operas"

"Che faró senza Euridice?" from *Orfeo ed Euridice*
(Italian Tradition)

Dame Janet Baker (ms) – 1982
The London Philharmonic, Raymond Leppard,
cond.
Glyndbourne Festival Opera

What's Happening – 1762

- ◆ Bach dies – 1750
- ◆ Handel dies – 1759
- ◆ Haydn appointed Kapellmeister of Esterházy – 1762
- ◆ Boucher and Tiepolo active
- ◆ James Watt invents condenser – 1764
- ◆ Royal Academy, London founded – 1768
- ◆ Oliver Goldsmith, Laurence Sterne active

Shepherd and Shepherdess Reposing – 1761
François Boucher (1703 – 1770)



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1762 – Orfeo ed Euridice

Christoph Willibald von Gluck, 1714-1787

Libretto by Raniero de Calzabigi after the
Greek legend.

First Performance, 1762, Vienna

Setting of the Greek legend of Orpheus
and Eurydice

After losing Eurydice (for the second
time), Orpheus laments his loss.

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Germany, 1782

WA Mozart

**Osmin's Aria from *The Abduction
from the Seraglio***

(German *Singspiel*)

Kurt Rydl (b) – 2002

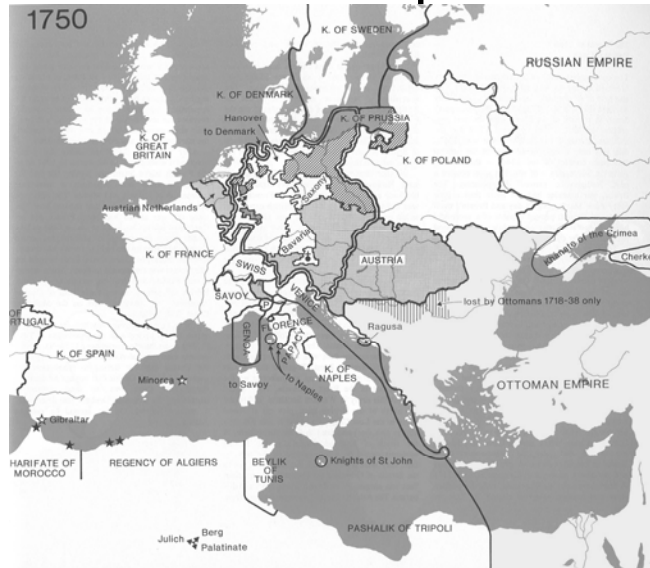
Orchestra of the Maggio Musicale
Fiorentino, Zubin Mehta, cond.

Teatro della Pergola, Florence

What's Happening – 1782

- ◆ Herschel discovers Uranus – 1781
- ◆ Watt builds working steam engine – 1782
- ◆ J.L. David, J. S. Copley, Joshua Reynolds active
- ◆ Beethoven first works printed – 1783
- ◆ Beaumarchais, *Marriage of Figaro* – 1784
- ◆ Schiller, *Don Carlos* – 1787

The Ottoman Empire - 1750



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Mrs. Baldwin – 1782 Joshua Reynolds (1723 - 1792)



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1782 – The Abduction from the Seraglio

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756-1791
Libretto by Gottlieb Stephanie after *Bellmont and Constanze* by Bretzner and Andre.

First Performance, 1782, Vienna

A young Spanish nobleman rescues his fiancée from the harem of a Turkish Pasha

Osmin, the good pasha's evil overseer, rejoices when he believes that he will have vengeance upon the Spaniards

Italy, 1816 Gioacchino Rossini

Figaro's Cavatina, "Largo al factotum!"
from *The Barber of Seville*

(*Opera Buffa*)

Gino Quilico (br) – 1988
Radio Symphony Orchestra, Stuttgart,
Gabriele Ferro, cond.

What's Happening – 1816

- ◆ Beethoven Symphonies 7 & 8 – 1812
- ◆ Goya, Ingres, JMW Turner active
- ◆ George Stevenson, first practical railroad locomotive – 1814
- ◆ Battle of New Orleans – 1815
- ◆ Wordsworth, Jane Austen, Byron, Shelley active
- ◆ Erie Canal started – 1817 (-1825)

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The Charge of the Mamelukes – 1814 Francisco Goya (1746 - 1828)



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1816 – The Barber of Seville

Gioacchino Rossini, 1792-1868

Libretto by Cesare Sterbini after a play by Pierre de Beaumarchais.

First Performance, 1816, Rome

The wily barber, Figaro, assists Count Almaviva in winning the hand of Rosina and thwarting her self-serving guardian, Don Bartolo

Here, Figaro introduces himself, and lets us know what a fine and clever fellow he is.

Germany, 1821 Carl Maria von Weber

**“Hat denn der Himmel mich verlassen . . .
Jetzt ist wohl ihr Fenster offen” from**

Der Freischütz

(Singspiel)

Ernst Kozub (t) – 1968

Hamburg Philharmonic State Orchestra,
Leopold Ludwig, cond.

(Production for German Television)

What's Happening – 1821

- ◆ Napoleon dies – 1821
- ◆ Simon Bolivar defeats Spanish army in Venezuela – 1821
- ◆ Goethe, *Wilhelm Meisters Wanderjahre* – 1821
- ◆ Charles Wheatstone demonstrates sound reproduction – 1821
- ◆ Schubert *Symphony 8*, - 1822
- ◆ Boston streets get gaslight – 1822

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Moonrise over the Sea – 1822
Caspar David Friedrich (1774 – 1840)



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Der Freischütz

Carl Maria von Weber, 1786-1826

Libretto by Johann Friedrich Kind after a tale in
Gespensterbuch by Apel and Laun (1811).

First Performance, 1821, Berlin

To win a shooting competition and the hand of
his beloved, a young hunter, Max, obtains a
magic bullet from the diabolical Samiel.

Max despairs of his bad luck in the hunt,
rhapsodizes over his lover and wonders if he
has been abandoned by Heaven.

Italy, 1831 (Bel Canto)

Vincenzo Bellini

"Casta diva" from *Norma*

June Anderson (s) – 2001

Europa Galante Orchestra, Verdi
Festival Chorus, Fabio Biondi,
cond.

Teatro Regio Parma

What's Happening – 1831

- ◆Chopin arrives in Paris
- ◆Meyerbeer's *Robert le Diable*, Paris
- ◆Darwin sets sail on HMS Beagle
- ◆James Clerk Maxwell publishes theory of electromagnetism
- ◆Michael Faraday demonstrates magnetic induction
- ◆Delacroix, Corot active

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Engraving: *An Arch-Druid in his Judicial Habit* – 1815
Robert Havell, Sr. (1769-1832)



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Norma

Vincenzo Bellini, 1801-1835

Libretto by Felice Romani after *Norma* by
Alexandre Soumet (1831)

First Performance, 1831, Milan

Set in Gaul during Roman occupation, tragic
love affair between a Druidic Priestess and
Roman General Polonius

The Druidic Priestess, Norma, cuts the sacred
mistletoe and sings a hymn, "Chaste
Goddess", to the Moon

Italy, 1853

Giuseppe Verdi

**"Folie! Delirio vano è questo! . . .
Sempre libera" from *La Traviata***

Teresa Stratas (s), Violetta; Plácido
Domingo (t), Alfredo (Video) - 1982

Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera, James
Levine, cond.

(Movie Version, directed by Franco Zeffirelli)

The Gleaners – 1857
Jean-François Millet (1814 – 1875)



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What's Happening – 1853

- ◆ George Eastman born – 1854
- ◆ Corot, Courbet, Turner, Millais active
- ◆ Commodore Perry, first American-Japanese Treaty – 1854
- ◆ Tennyson, *Charge of the Light Brigade* – 1854
- ◆ Professorship of Technology established, Edinburgh University – 1855

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La Traviata

Giuseppe Verdi, 1813-1901

Libretto by Francesco Piave after *La dame aux camélias* by Alexandre Dumas *fils* (1852).

First Performance, 1853, Venice

A beautiful but insecure call girl tries but fails tragically to find true happiness in 19th century Paris.

Violetta finds herself falling in love with Alfredo, but refuses to allow herself to do so, instead seeking refuge in frivolous pleasure.

Germany, 1862 Richard Wagner

Magic Fire Music from *Die Walküre*

James Morris (bbr) – 1990

Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera,
James Levine, cond.

What's Happening – 1862

- ◆ Garibaldi proclaims Victor Emmanuel II King of Italy – 1860
- ◆ Manet, Degas active
- ◆ Foucault measures speed of light – 1862
- ◆ Louis Pasteur invents pasteurization – 1864
- ◆ Ludwig Köchel publishes *Catalog of Mozart's Works* – 1862
- ◆ Bizet, *Pearlfishers* – 1863

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Le déjeuner sur l'herbe (The Picnic) – 1863
Eduard Manet (1832 – 1883)



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Die Walküre

Richard Wagner, 1813-1883

Libretto by composer.

First Performance, 1862, Vienna

Part 2 of *The Ring of the Nibelung* based on the 13th century epic *Nibelungenlied*.

Wotan, king of the Gods, has condemned his beloved daughter, Brünhilde, the Valkyrie, to mortality. He protects her sleeping body by magic flames, calling upon Loge, the God of Fire.

France, 1883

Leo Delibes

**"Viens, Mallika" (The Flower Duet)
from *Lakmé* (excerpt)**

Joan Sutherland (s), Lakme; Huguette Tourangeau (ms), Mallika - 1970

The Elizabethan Sydney Orchestra, The Australian Opera Chorus, Richard Bonyngé, cond

What's Happening – 1883

- ◆ Manet dies, Utrillo born – 1883
- ◆ Monet, Cezanne, Renoir active
- ◆ Tchaikovsky, *1812 Overture* – 1882
- ◆ Brooklyn Bridge opens – 1883
- ◆ GB Shaw, Victorien Sardou, Ibsen active
- ◆ Edison designs first hydroelectric plant, Appleton, WI – 1882
- ◆ Lord Kelvin, *On the Size of Atoms* – 1883

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In the Garden – 1885
Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1841–1919)



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Lakmé

Leo Delibes, 1836-1891

Libretto by Edmond Gondinet and Phillipe Gille
after the novel *Le mariage de Loti* by Pierre
Loti (1882).

First Performance, 1883, Paris

The doomed love between a Brahmin princess
and a British officer in 19th century India.

Lakmé and her faithful maid, Mallika, prepare to
travel along the river.

Italy, 1892 (Versimo)

Ruggero Leoncavallo

"Si può? Si può?" (The Prologue)

from *Pagliacci*

Juan Pons (br), Tonio - 1982

Orchestra and Chorus of Teatro della
Scala, George Prêtre cond.

Movie version directed by Franco Zeffirelli

What's Happening – 1892

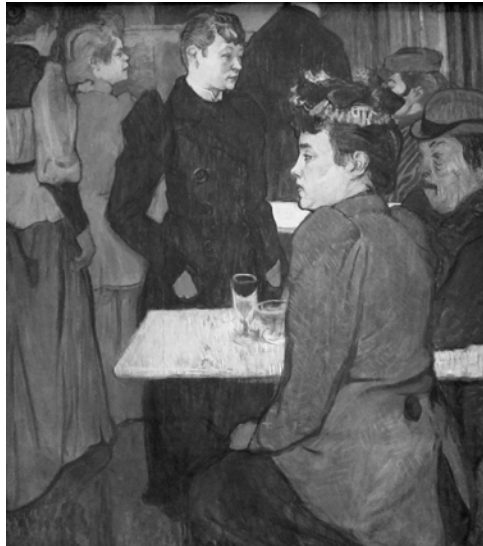
- ◆ Grover Cleveland elected US President – 1892
- ◆ Tchaikovski, *The Nutcracker* – 1892
- ◆ Rudolf Diesel receives his patent – 1892
- ◆ Monet and Toulouse-Lautrec active
- ◆ Beginning of Wireless Telegraphy – 1891
- ◆ Bruckner publishes Symphony No. 8 – 1891
- ◆ Ibsen, Oscar Wilde, Zola, GB Shaw active
- ◆ Samuel Langley, *Experiments in Aerodynamics* – 1891
- ◆ Henry Ford's first automotive experiments – 1893-1896

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A Corner at the Moulin de la Galette – 1892 **Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864–1901)**



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Pagliacci

Ruggero Leoncavallo, 1857 – 1919

Libretto by the Composer

First Performance, 1892, Milan

Set in a small village in Calabria, end of 19th century, featuring a troupe of traveling *commedia dell'arte* players.

The Prologue: Before the curtain rises, one of the Characters steps out of character and sepaks directly to the Audience: "The Verismo Manifesto"

Russia, 1898

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Sadko's Triumphant Farewell from
Sadko

Vladimir Galusin (t) - 1994

Kirov Chorus and Orchestra, Valery
Gergiev , cond.

What's Happening – 1898

- ◆ Brahms dies – 1897
- ◆ JJ Thomson discovers the electron – 1897
- ◆ Spanish American War – 1898
- ◆ Rodin, H Rousseau, Matisse, Cezanne, Picasso, Toulouse-Lautrec active
- ◆ First magnetic recordings of sound – 1899
- ◆ Czar Nicholas II visits Paris and London – 1896

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The Dance – 1900

Klavdiy Vasilievich Lebedev (1852–1916)



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Sadko

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908)

Libretto by Composer and Vladimir Ivanovich
Bel'sky after a *bylina* from 11th cent.
Novgorod Cycle.

First Performance, 1898, Moscow

The minstrel Sadko makes his fortune as a
merchant with the magical aid of the
daughter of the Ocean God.

Sadko, having gained the money for a ship,
tiumphantly says farewell to his fellow
citizens of Novgorod.

Italy, 1924 Giacomo Puccini

**Liù's Aria, "Ascolta, signore", from
*Turandot***

Leona Mitchell (s), Liù – 1988

Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera,
James Levine, cond.

What's Happening – 1924

- ◆ Puccini dies – 1924
- ◆ Poulenc, Ravel, Sibelius, Berg, Fauré, Janáček, Schönberg active
- ◆ Kandinsky, Picasso, Vlaminck, Braque, Chagall, de Chirico active
- ◆ Mussolini elected in Italy – 1924
- ◆ Zworikin files patent for iconoscope (TV camera tube) – 1924
- ◆ Heisenberg, Bohr publish quantum theory – 1925

Two Women (Sacred and Profane Love) – 1924 George Bellows (1882–1925)



Turandot

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Libretto by Giuseppe Adami and Renato Simoni
after a play by Carlo Gozzi (1762).

Score completed by Franco Alfano

First Performance, 1926, Milan

Ancient China. Prince Calaf accepts the
challenge of three riddles and melts the heart
of the cruel Princess Turandot.

The faithful slave girl, Liù, pleads with Calaf to
consider his father and her, and not take the
challenge.

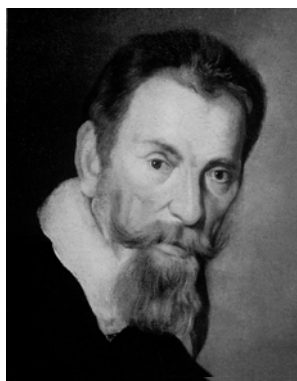
. . . and then, in the 20th Century . . .



Pablo Picasso, *Three Musicians* (1921)

Everything Changed!

Thank You



And Good Night!

Playlist

The History and Geography of Opera From its Origins Through the Golden Age

Art Axelrod
October 2010

The Beginning: Mantua, Italy, 1607

1. Toccata and Prelude from *L'Orfeo* (4:58)

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

Montserrat Figueras (s), La Musica – 2002

La Capella Real de Catalunya, Le Concert des Nations, Jordi Savall, cond.

Grand Teatre del Liceu

BBC Opus Arte 8 09478 00033 4

France, 1674

2. Act IV, Scene I, Ritournelle ... “Il faut passer ” from *Alceste* (2 :47)

Jean Baptiste Lully, (1632-1687)

Gregory Reinhart (b) – 1991 (Audio)

La Grande Ecurie et la Chambre du Roy, Ensemble Vocal Sagittarius,

Jean-Claude Malgloire, cond.

Astree E8527

England, 1738

3. “Frondi tenere e belle ... Ombra mai fu” (“Largo”) from *Serse (Xerxes)* (4:00)

George Frideric Handel, (1685-1759)

Paula Rasmussen (ms) – 1989 (Video)

Ludwigshafener Theaterchor, Christophe Rousset, cond.

EuroArts 2053798

Germany, 1762 (Italian Tradition)

4. “Che faró senza Euridice” from *Orfeo ed Euridice (Vienna version)* (4:43)

Cristoph Willibald Gluck (1714-1787)

Dame Janet Baker (ms) – 1982 (Video)

The London Philharmonic, Raymond Leppard, cond.

Glyndbourne Festival Opera

Kultur D2100

Germany, 1782 (German Singspiel)

5. Osmin’s Aria, “Ha! Wie will ich triumphieren” from *The Abduction from the Seraglio* (3:34)

W. A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Kurt Rydl (b) – 2002 (Video)

Orchestra of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Zubin Mehta, cond.

Teatro della Pergola, Florence

TDK DVUS-OPEADS (2003)

Italy, 1816 (*Opera Buffa*)

6. Figaro’s Cavatina, “Largo al factotum!” from *The Barber of Seville* (4:47)

Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)

Gino Quilico (br) – 1988

Radio Symphony Orchestra, Stuttgart, Gabriele Ferro, cond.

Arthaus Musik 100091 (DVD)

Germany, 1821 (*Singspiel*)**7. “Hat denn der Himmel mich verlassen? ... Jetzt ist wohl ihr Fenster offen”**from *Der Freischütz* (4:01)

Carl Maria von Weber (1786-1826)

Ernst Kozub (t) – 1968 (Video)

Hamburg Philharmonic State Orchestra, Leopold Ludwig, cond.

Arthaus Musik 101 271

Italy, 1831 (*Bel Canto*)**8. “Casta diva” from *Norma* (3:50)**

Vincenzo Bellini (1801-1835)

June Anderson (s) – 2001

Europa Galante Orchestra, Verdi Festival Chorus, Fabio Biondi, cond.

Teatro Regio Parma

TDK DVUS OPNOR (2002)

Italy, 1853**9. “Folie! Delirio vano è questo! ... Sempre libera” from *La Traviata* (5:00)**

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

Teresa Stratas (s), Violetta; Plácido Domingo (t), Alfredo (Video) - 1982

Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera, James Levine, cond.

Movie Version, directed by Franco Zeffirelli

Universal 20326 (1999)

Germany, 1862**10. Magic Fire Music from *Die Walküre* (4:47)**

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)

James Morris (bbr) – 1990 (Video)

Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera, James Levine, cond.

Deutsche Grammophon 440 073 049-9

France, 1883**11. “Viens, Mallika” (excerpt) from *Lakmé* (3:07)**

Leo Delibes (1836-1891)

Joan Sutherland (s), Lakme; Huguette Tourangeau (ms), Mallika - 1970

The Elizabethan Sydney Orchestra, The Australian Opera Chorus, Richard Bonyngue, cond.

Kultur D0038 (1976)

Italy, 1892**12. “Si può? Si può?” (Prologue) from *Pagliacci* (4:43)**

Ruggero Leoncavallo (1857-1919)

Juan Pons (br), Tonio - 1982

Orchestra and Chorus of Teatro della Scala, George Prêtre cond.

Movie version, Franco Zeffirelli, dir.

Deutsche Grammophon B0004353-09 (2005)

Russia, 1898**13. Sadko’s Triumphant Farewell from *Sadko* (2:39)**

Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908)

Vladimir Galusin (t) – 1994 (Video)

Kirov Chorus and Orchestra, Valery Gergiev, cond.

Philips B0006619-09

Italy, 1924**14. Liù’s Aria, “Ascolta, signore” from *Turandot* (2:50)**

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Leona Mitchell (s), Liù – 1988 (Video)

Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera, James Levine, cond.

Deutsche Grammophon B0000852-09 (2003)

T.T. =55:46