

ENCORE



FOUNDED BY STEVE SCHWARTZ

OPERA

For January 3, 2020

NOTES prepared by GENE MARTIN

About the 2020 schedule: Steve and I aimed to add new —different, I should say— music yet include the usual favorite operas. You will find a concert or gala starting each month (except December) and some new titles. I hope we did a passable job of responding to your requests. Let us know. Now, on to:

THIS WEEK

This recording comprises selections from previously recorded performances. In these Notes are all the information needed to purchase this DVD and each selection on it. I always include this information on behalf of the artists since they do not derive income from our use of their work. Buy some for your grandchildren?

This DVD is new to me or rather, I am new to it so I have just paraphrased the DVD's Notes and do not offer my views on the artistry or productions on the recording.

However, the *BBC Music Magazine* says "...all musically exceptional..." I believe them even if these days ellipses are coming in for a great deal of scrutiny about what they don't (or do) say! Besides, as Steve often says, you will judge that for yourself.

NEXT WEEK: Lakmé

January 10 we will leave this frigid clime for the warmer weather of India when England occupied it in the mid-19th century. Emma Matthews sings the starring role of Lakmé, the innocent priestess, from the Sydney Opera House. To start, we will hear from Director Roger Hodgman for 6 minutes and 20 seconds "On Lakmé"

This Week's Program

AN EVENING WITH THE ROYAL OPERA

with English Subtitles

Runtime: 80 + 7 minutes • Filmed by BBC
1984 The Royal Opera • DVD released 2012 by
Opus Arte/ROH
MPAA NOT RATED • ASIN: B0097BJD2Y

The concert *Evening With The Royal Opera* is arranged as three acts with an overture.

The Overture

ROSSINI: *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* -
Overture (Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

Two chords followed by a "comical scampering little figure" introduce an opera about a clever woman and a wily barber who outwit a buffoon.

Complete opera available on Virgin Classics DVD 6 94581 9

Act One

VERDI: *La Traviata* - "**Brindisi** – Libiamo Ne' Lieti Calici" (Renée Fleming; Joseph Calleja; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

Alfredo comes to Violetta's party to win her affections and sings this drinking song extolling love. She replies she prefers to celebrate fleeting pleasures.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1040 D and Blu-ray OA BD7076 D

MOZART: *Le Nozze Di Figaro* - "**Deh, Vieni, non tardar**" (Miah Persson; Orchestra Of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

As she knows, Figaro is spying on his wife Susanna thinking she is about to meet a lover. She is not, but to tease him sings this aria full of longing and invitation.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 0990 D and Blu-ray OA BD7033 D

BIZET: *Carmen* "**Flower Song**" (Jonas Kaufmann; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

Don Jose spent a month in prison for helping Carmen escape and she intends to reward him with a night of pleasure. Her feeling turn to scorn when the dutiful soldier feels compelled to return to barracks.

Complete opera available on Decca DVD 074 3312 DH

MOZART: *Le Nozze Di Figaro* - "**Non Più Andrai**" (Erwin Schrott; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

The adolescent page Cherubino is to be punished by being sent into the army. Figaro teases him by describing what that life will be like

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 0990 D and Blu-ray OA BD7033 D

PUCCINI: *La Bohème* - "**O Soave Fanciulla**" (Teodor Ilincai; Hibla Gerzmava; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Andris Nelsons)

Rudolfo and his neighbor Mimi have just met and fallen in love which they declare

in this aria.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1027 D and Blu-ray OA BD7060 D

Act Two

PURCELL: *Dido And Aeneas* - **Dido's Lament**: "When I Am Laid In Earth" (Sarah Connolly; Orchestra of The Age of Enlightenment; Christopher Hogwood)

Heartbroken by her lover's desertion and close to death, Dido, Queen of Cathage, begs her beloved friend Belinda to treasure her memory.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1018 D and Blu-ray OA BD7075 D

MOZART: *Don Giovanni* - "**Là Ci Darem La Mano**" (Simon Keenlyside; Miah Persson; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Charles Mackerras)

Zerlinda, an attractive peasant girl betrothed to Masetto, accepts the nobleman Don Giovanni's offer to take her to his castle.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1009 D and Blu-ray OA BD7028 D

VERDI: *Il Trovatore* - "**Di Quella Pira**" (José Cura; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Carlo Rizzi)

Manrico's wedding plans are interrupted by the news that his mother is about to be burned at the stake as a gypsy sorceress. He gathers his forces to rescue her.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 0848 D and Blu-ray OA BD7006 D

HUMPERDINCK: *Hänsel Und Gretel* - "**Evening Hymn**" (Diana Damrau;

Angelika Kirchschrager; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Colin Davis)

The children pray before succumbing to the Sandman's sleeping spell.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1011 D and Blu-ray OA BD7032 D

PUCCINI: *La Bohème* - **Musetta's Waltz:** "Quando M'en Vo'" (Inna Dukach; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Andris Nelsons)

At the Cafe, Musetta sings this aria to recapture her lover Marcello and leave with him, abandoning her older patron.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1027 D and Blu-ray OA BD7075 D

Act Three

VERDI: *Macbeth* - "**Patria Oppressa!**" (Royal Opera Chorus; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

Scottish exiles mourn the plight of their homeland as a consequence of King Macbeth's tyranny.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1063 D and Blu-ray OA BD7095 D

PUCCINI: *Gianni Schicchi* - "**O Mio Babbino Caro**" (Ekaterina Siurina; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

Schicchi's daughter Lauretta begs him to change his mind and help the Donati family so that she can marry her boyfriend Rinuccio Donati.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1070 D and Blu-ray OA BD7102 D

MOZART: *Die Zauberflöte* - "**Der Hölle Rache**" (Diana Damrau; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Colin Davis)

The Queen of the Night brings Pamina a knife and tells her to kill the Queen's mortal enemy, Sarastro who seems like a good man to Pamina.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 0885 D and Blu-ray OA BD7002 D

VERDI: *La Traviata* - "**Parigi, O Cara**" (Renée Fleming; Joseph Calleja; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Antonio Pappano)

Alfredo now knows of Violetta's love and sacrifice in ending their relationship. In this duet he tells the dying woman she will recover and they sing of their new life together.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 1040 D and Blu-ray OA BD7076 D

MOZART: *Die Zauberflöte* - "**Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa**" (Simon Keenlyside; Ailish Tynan; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Colin Davis)

The birdcatcher Papageno despairs of finding a wife until he remembers his magic bells which bring Papagena to him.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 0885 D and Blu-ray OA BD7002 D

VERDI: *Falstaff* - **Finale** (Bryn Terfel And Ensemble; Orchestra of The Royal Opera House; Bernard Haitink)

The happy conclusion of Verdi's final opera is that after much confusion, Falstaff and the whole ensemble celebrate the amusing absurdity of the human condition.

Complete opera available on Opus Arte DVD OA 0823 D

Encore Opera is published weekly to inform the Riderwood Opera Theater community. It is edited and printed by Gene Martin and distributed by Paula Cook to the cubbies of residents without email. • For a free subscription send name and (cubby) address to Paula Cook, KC 211 or email to genemartin36@gmail.com.

Riderwood Opera Theater presents programs by Encore Opera (recorded) and The Purple Lady (Live Opera) produced variously by Mike Beard, Paula Cook, Trudy Downs, Betty Dunkins, Sally Koenig, Joan Kugler, Gene Martin, Al Morey, Sally Porter, Steve Schwartz, Millie Trimble, and Ken Welliver. We invite you to join us. 202-352-0725

OPERA NOTES FOR :

Friday at 1:00 PM at Encore Theater

