

Literature in Opera

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Brief overview of Literature used in Opera

- Florence Italy 16th 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 16th 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 Diadkova

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

Playlist

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Tacitus and Seneca

1. Sinfonia & “Ecco pur ch'a voi” from *L'Orfeo*

Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643)

Cappella Musicale di S. Petronio di Bologna, Sergio Vartolo, cond.

Naxos 8.555037-38

Vergil, *The Aeneid*

2. “When I am laid in earth” from *Dido and Aeneas*

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

Kym Amps (s)

The Scholars Baroque Ensemble

Naxos 8.555037-38

Lord Byron

3. “Notte, perpetua notte...Non maledirmi, o prode” from *I Due Foscari*

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)

José Cura (t) – date

Philharmonia Orchestra

Erato 8573-80232-2

Shakespeare

4. “Ave Maria” from *Otello*

Verdi

Renee Fleming (s) – 1997

London SO, Sir George Solti, cond.

London 455 760-2

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

5. Duet from Act I from *Faust*

Charles Gonoud (1818-1893)

Plácido Domingo (t), Samuel Ramey (b) – 1996

Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, James Levine, cond.

Label 12345

Shakespeare

6. “Facciamo il parentado ... Tutto nel mondo è burla” from *Falstaff*

Verdi

Juan Pons (t) – 1994

Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, James Levine, cond.

Sony Classical S2K 58961

Victorien Sardou

7. “E lucevan le stelle” from *Tosca*

Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924)

Jussi Bjoerling (t)
RCA Victor / BMG 09026-63755-2

Goethe

8. “Pourquoi me reveiller” from *Werther*

Jules Massenet (1842-1912)
Luciano Pavarotti (t)
National PO, Oliviero de Fabritiis, cond.
London 443 821-2

Alexander Pushkin

9. “Introduction . . . Dela davno minuvsikh” from *Ruslan and Lyudmila*

Mikhail Glinka (1804-1857)
1996
Kirov Chorus and Orchestra, Valery Gergiev, cond.
Label 12345Philips 456 248-2

Bible, Book of Judges

10. “Mon coeur s'ouvre à ta voix” from *Samson et Dalila*

Camille Saint-Saens (1835-1921)
Maria Callas (s) – 1982
Orchestre National de la R.D.F., Georges Prêtre, cond.
EMI CDC 7 49059 2

French Oral Tradition

11. “Soll ich lauschen?” from *Tristan und Isolde*

Richard Wagner (1813-1883)
Placido Domingo (t), Deborah Voight (s) – 2000
Orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, Antonio Pappano, cond.
EMI 7243 5 57004 2

Voltaire

12. Overture from *Candide*

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)
1999
Minnesota Orchestra, Eiji Oue, cond.
Reference Recordings RR-87CD

Nathaniel Hawthorne

13. “Good day” from *The House of Seven Gables*

Scott Eyerly
2000
Manhattan School of Music Opera Theater, David Gilbert, cond.
Albany Records TROY 447

Hans Christian Anderson

14. “O Silver Moon” from *Russalka*

Dvorak (1841-1904)
Renee Fleming (s) – 1997
London SO, Sir George Solti, cond.
London 455 760-2