

## **100 Great Operas And Their Stories Act By Act**

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### **Opera, Or, The Undoing of Women**

The world's definitive single volume of opera reference including: full plot synopses, cast lists, singers, composers, literary and social history, recordings, and

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much more. Covers over 250 operas performed over the last quarter-century, additional works selected for interest, merit, or historical significance, 64 pages of color plates, 100 black-and-white photographs, fully cross-referenced with indexes and a glossary.

### **The Art of Sound**

Spanning 400 years of musical drama, *Eyewitness Companions: Opera* is your guide to the musical world. Explore operas and composers from the late Renaissance on, including such classical masters as Verdi, Puccini, and Bizet. *Eyewitness Companions: Opera* is the complete visual guidebook to the great operas, their composers and performance history. *Eyewitness Companions: Opera* includes more than 160 operas by 66 composers around the world. This richly illustrated eBook includes act-by-act plot synopses and storyline highlights, plus detailed profiles cover composers, Librettists, singers, and more.

### **A Mad Love**

Retells the story of Verdi's opera in which the love of the enslaved Ethiopian princess for an Egyptian general brings tragedy to all involved.

### **Gravity's Rainbow**

In *Ticket to the Opera*, Phil G. Goulding finally makes the magic and mystique of opera accessible to all. Here he offers a complete operatic education, including history, definitions of key musical terms, opera lore and gossip, portraits of famous singers and the roles they immortalized, as well as pithy introductions to the greatest operas of Europe and America and their composers. The book's centerpiece is what Goulding terms "the collection"--85 classics, among them *Aida*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Carmen*, and *Madama Butterfly*, that have been packing the world's opera houses for years. This entertaining, meticulously researched book also includes a fascinating chapter on American opera from George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* to Philip Glass's *Einstein on the Beach* and a discussion of the gems of twentieth-century opera featuring works like Leos Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, Alban Berg's *Lulu*, and Serge Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges*. Whether you're a curious neophyte, a music lover interested in branching out, or an aficionado eager to compare notes with a brilliant fellow opera buff, you'll prize *Ticket to the Opera* as an essential volume in your music library. From the Trade Paperback edition.

### **A Night at the Opera**

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A lively introduction to opera, from the Renaissance to the twenty-first century. There are few art forms as visceral and emotional as opera, and few that are as daunting for newcomers. *A Mad Love* offers a spirited and indispensable tour of opera's eclectic past and present, beginning with Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo* in 1607, generally considered the first successful opera, through classics like *Carmen* and *La Bohème*, and spanning to *Brokeback Mountain* and *The Death of Klinghoffer* in recent years. Musician and critic Vivien Schweitzer acquaints readers with the genre's most important composers and some of its most influential performers, recounts its long-standing debates, and explains its essential terminology. Today, opera is everywhere, from the historic houses of major opera companies to movie theaters and public parks to offbeat performance spaces and our earbuds. *A Mad Love* is an essential book for anyone who wants to appreciate this living, evolving art form in all its richness.

### **Aida**

### **The Queen of the Night**

Act-by-act summaries of one hundred outstanding operas accompany notes on their production, arias, and literary background.

## **Ticket to the Opera**

Opera is the fastest growing of all the performing arts, attracting audiences of all ages who are enthralled by the gorgeous music, vivid drama, and magnificent production values. If you've decided that the time has finally come to learn about opera and discover for yourself what it is about opera that sends your normally reserved friends into states of ecstatic abandon, this is the book for you. Opera 101 is recognized as the standard text in English for anyone who wants to become an opera lover--a clear, friendly, and truly complete handbook to learning how to listen to opera, whether on the radio, on recordings, or live at the opera house. Fred Plotkin, an internationally respected writer and teacher about opera who for many years was performance manager of the Metropolitan Opera, introduces the reader (whatever his or her level of musical knowledge) to all the elements that make up opera, including: A brief, entertaining history of opera; An explanation of key operatic concepts, from vocal types to musical conventions; Hints on the best way to approach the first opera you attend and how to best understand what is happening both offstage and on; Lists of recommended books and recordings, and the most complete traveler's guide to opera houses around the world. The major part of Opera 101 is devoted to an almost minute-by-minute analysis of eleven key operas, ranging from Verdi's thunderous masterpiece Rigoletto and Puccini's electrifying Tosca through works by Mozart, Donizetti, Rossini, Offenbach, Tchaikovsky, and Wagner, to the psychological complexities of Richard Strauss's

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Elektra. Once you have completed Opera 101, you will be prepared to see and hear any opera you encounter, thanks to this book's unprecedentedly detailed and enjoyable method of revealing the riches of opera.

### **The New Milton Cross' More Stories of the Great Operas**

Cross's standard reference work on opera, updated and enlarged to include twenty-five additional works, provides scene-by-scene, aria-by-aria descriptions of significant operas

### **The Politics of Opera**

Essays discuss the last decade of Mozart's operas, and consider the pertinence of opera outside Vienna at the end of the 18th century

### **The Oxford Illustrated History of Opera**

### **A Book of Operas**

“The best single volume ever written on the subject, such is its range, authority,

and readability.”—Times Literary Supplement Why has opera transfixed and fascinated audiences for centuries? Carolyn Abbate and Roger Parker answer this question in their “effervescent, witty” (Die Welt, Germany) retelling of the history of opera, examining its development, the musical and dramatic means by which it communicates, and its role in society. Now with an expanded examination of opera as an institution in the twenty-first century, this “lucid and sweeping” (Boston Globe) narrative explores the tensions that have sustained opera over four hundred years: between words and music, character and singer, inattention and absorption. Abbate and Parker argue that, though the genre’s most popular and enduring works were almost all written in a distant European past, opera continues to change the viewer— physically, emotionally, intellectually—with its enduring power.

### **What to Listen For in Opera**

### **Stories of the Great Operas and Their Composers**

His fascinating exploration takes you inside the rich music and colorful lives of the world’s greatest classical composers. From Bach to Stravinsky and beyond, you will learn how the unique life stories of these gifted composers are reflected in the

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musical masterpieces that we enjoy to this day. Designed as an introductory book on classical music, this comprehensive collection presents biographical snapshots of the major composers in the context of distinct historical and stylistic periods and in relation to their notable contemporaries. Special attention is given to recognizing their prominent musical works. The book delineates the many forms of instrumental and vocal music; and it explores the “basics” of tonality, musical structure, performance criteria, the orchestra and its instruments, orchestration, chamber music, and the cataloguing of musical works. As well, the newcomer to classical music will find advice on building a musical library. This book is an excellent source of information about classical music in a unique and entertaining format. It will help lay the foundation for a lifelong love of classical music, through the great musical heritage of these fine composers.

### **Mozart's Operas**

Contains act-by-act descriptions of 100 operatic works ranging from the early seventeenth century to modern classics.

### **The New Grove Book of Operas**

Winner of the 1974 National Book Award “A screaming comes across the sky. . .” A



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few months after the Germans' secret V-2 rocket bombs begin falling on London, British Intelligence discovers that a map of the city pinpointing the sexual conquests of one Lieutenant Tyrone Slothrop, U.S. Army, corresponds identically to a map showing the V-2 impact sites. The implications of this discovery will launch Slothrop on an amazing journey across war-torn Europe, fleeing an international cabal of military-industrial superpowers, in search of the mysterious Rocket 00000, through a wildly comic extravaganza that has been hailed in *The New Republic* as "the most profound and accomplished American novel since the end of World War II."

### **More Stories of the Great Operas**

Combining fact and fiction, each of the one hundred and two tales of Alexander Kluge's *Temple of the Scapegoat* (dotted with photos of famous operas and their stars) compresses a lifetime of feeling and thought: Kluge is deeply engaged with the opera and an inventive wellspring of narrative notions. The titles of his stories suggest his many turns of mind: "Total Commitment," "Freedom," "Reality Outrivals Theater," "The Correct Slowing-Down at the Transitional Point Between Terror and an Inkling of Freedom," "A Crucial Character (Among Persons None of Whom Are Who They Think They Are)," and "Deadly Vocal Power vs. Generosity in Opera." An opera, Kluge says, is a blast furnace of the soul, telling of the great singer Leonard Warren who died onstage, having literally sung his heart out. Kluge

introduces a Tibetan scholar who realizes that opera "is about comprehension and passion. The two never go together. Passion overwhelms comprehension. Comprehension kills passion. This appears to be the essence of all operas, says Huang Tse-we." He also comes to understand that female roles face the harshest fates: "Compared to the mass of soprano victims (out of 86,000 operas, 64,000 end with the death of the soprano), the sacrifice of tenors is small (out of 86,000 operas 1,143 tenors are a write-off)."

### **A Dictionary of Heroes, Heroines, Lovers, and Villains in Classical Opera**

Written by a well-known authority, this book consists of 175 entries that set some of the most popular operas within the context of their composer's career, outline the plot, discuss the music, and more.

### **Music in Opera**

Amidst rumors that the Paris opera house is haunted, Christine Daaé, a young Swedish girl, performs at a gala and attracts attention from both her childhood sweetheart, Raoul, and the Phantom, who is living underground. Suddenly, mysterious circumstances abound at the opera house: a stagehand is found dead,

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managers receive letters demanding that Christine sing the lead role, and a chandelier crashes down into the audience. When Christine reunites with Raoul, the phantom grows dangerously jealous. Will Christine stay on the stage or disappear into the opera house's dark cellars and grim secrets? Gaston Leroux's Gothic novel was first published in French in 1911. This is an unabridged version of the translation by Alexander Teixeira de Mattos, published the same year.

### **From the Score to the Stage**

A detailed guide to opera covers monodies, masques, modern music dramas, operettas, musicals, and grand, tragic, and comic operas

### **The 100 Greatest Composers and Their Musical Works**

Opera A to Z: A Beginner's Guide to Opera is an overview of the most famous operas and opera characters of all time; one for each letter of the alphabet. The book was written with children ages eight to twelve in mind, but it is sure to delight young and old alike with its engaging summaries of twenty-six renowned operas. The book is based on a 27 x 40 watercolor that took author and illustrator Liddy Lindsay two years to complete and has become a bestseller as notecards and Gicle prints at The Met Opera Shop in New York.

## **The Opera Lover's Companion**

### **The Viking Opera Guide**

"The Story of Opera explores the centuries-old tradition of opera through the stories it tells -- from ancient myths and medieval quest legends to tales of predatory nobles and young lovers, the struggles of the poor, interracial relationships, and ordinary people caught up in great events. The stories reflect human issues that were important to audiences at the time and, through the emotional power of music, still resonate today. Offstage as well as on, each aspect of the operatic experience has its own fascinating story, told here and illustrated in a stunning four-color design. Two hundred beautiful images show not only remarkable productions but also how an opera was understood when it was created." -- Back cover.

### **100 Great Operas and Their Stories**

First Published in 1990. Information about individual operas and other types of musical theater is scattered throughout the enormous literature of music. This book is an effort to bring that data together by comprehensively indexing plots and

descriptions of individual operatic background, criticism and analysis, musical themes and bibliographical references. The principal audience for this general reference guide will be for the non-specialist, but its hoped that persons specialising in opera would also find it useful.

### **Eyewitness Companions: Opera**

Without scenery, costumes, and stage action, an opera would be little more than a concert. But in the audience, we know little (and think less) about the enormous efforts of those involved in bringing an opera to life—by the stagehands who shift scenery, the scenic artists who create beautiful backdrops, the electricians who focus the spotlights, and the stage manager who calls them and the singers to their places during the performance. The first comprehensive history of the behind-the-scenes world of opera production and staging, *From the Score to the Stage* follows the evolution of visual style and set design in continental Europe from its birth in the seventeenth century up to today. In clear, witty prose, Evan Baker covers all the major players and pieces involved in getting an opera onto the stage, from the stage director who creates the artistic concept for the production and guides the singers' interpretation of their roles to the blocking of singers and placement of scenery. He concentrates on the people—composers, librettists, designers, and technicians—as well as the theaters and events that generated developments in opera production. Additional topics include the many difficulties in

performing an opera, the functions of impresarios, and the business of music publishing. Delving into the absorbing and often neglected history of stage directing, theater architecture and technology, and scenic and lighting design, Baker nimbly links these technical aspects of opera to actual performances and performers, and the social context in which they appeared. Out of these details arise illuminating discussions of individual productions that cast new light on the operas of Wagner, Verdi, and others. Packed with nearly two hundred color illustrations, *From the Score to the Stage* is a revealing, always entertaining look at what happens before the curtain goes up on opening night at the opera house.

### **Famous Italian Opera Arias**

This was the first work to have applied a systematised feminist theory to opera. It concentrates on the stories & text of opera, that perhaps have more relevance today in a growing literature than it had when it was the "sacrilegious" pioneering work.

### **The Story of Opera**

In this lavishly illustrated volume the history and social context of opera is explored by a group of leading British and American scholars, under the editorship

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of Roger Parker. The core of the book is a historical survey of opera, from its beginnings in Florence four hundred years ago, up to opera in the 1990s. The greatest coverage is given to the nineteenth century, the time during which most of the operas performed today were composed. There are also chapters on the history of staging, on opera singers, on opera as a social occasion through the ages, and a chronology. Although all major composers of opera are mentioned, and their works discussed, the various chapters concentrate less on simple historical narrative and more on the complex development of opera, especially on its relationship with the other arts and its place within the broader world of culture and politics. The numerous illustrations -- nearly three hundred, some thirty of which are in colour -- serve the vital purpose of underlining the richly visual nature of opera: the manner in which it communicates so vividly through staging and costume, and the spectacular way in which it often reflects the cultural concerns of the age. Rather than simply illustrating the text, the pictures work as a kind of parallel history, supplementing and enriching the verbal narrative. The contributors are all experts in their chosen areas, but all of them have remained alive to the basic attraction of opera: its extravagant appeal to both the senses and the intellect, and its seemingly inexhaustible power to move and astonish us.

### **Temple of the Scapegoat**

This package contains the following components: -0135055350:

MyNursingLab/Skills -- Access Card -0135128374: Skills in Clinical Nursing

### **The New Penguin Opera Guide**

Original Italian texts with English translations of 145 arias from 50 operas, including Rigoletto, The Marriage of Figaro, Lucia di Lammermoor, Madama Butterfly, La Bohème, and more. Introduction.

### **Sing Me a Story**

### **The 100 Best Vacations to Enrich Your Life**

National Bestseller New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice | An Indie Next Pick A Best Book of the Year from NPR, Boston Globe, BuzzFeed, Esquire, San Francisco Chronicle, Time Out, Self, Jezebel, The Portland Mercury, Electric Literature, and Entropy Magazine "It just sounds terrific. It sounds like opera." —Joan Acocella, The New Yorker "Sprawling, soaring, bawdy, and plotted like a fine embroidery." —Scott Simon, NPR "Dazzling." —Wall Street Journal | "A brilliant performance." —Washington Post "Sweeping, richly detailed." —People | "Masterful." —Wired | "Spellbinding." —BuzzFeed A "wild opera of a novel,"\* The



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Queen of the Night tells the mesmerizing story of Lilliet Berne, an orphan who left the American frontier for Europe and was swept into the glamour and terror of Second Empire France. She became a sensation of the Paris Opera, with every accolade but an original role—her chance at immortality. When one is offered to her, she finds the libretto is based on her deepest secret, something only four people have ever known. But who betrayed her? With “epic sweep, gorgeous language, and haunting details,”\*\* Alexander Chee shares Lilliet’s cunning transformation from circus rider to courtesan to legendary soprano, retracing the path that led to the role that could secure her reputation—or destroy her with the secrets it reveals. “If Lilliet Berne were a man, she might have been what nineteenth-century novels would call a swashbuckler: the kind of destiny-courting, death-defying character who finds intrigue and peril (and somehow, always, a fantastic pair of pantaloons) around every corner.” —Entertainment Weekly

### **A History of Opera**

### **Opera News**

### **Opera 101**

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Travel statistics say that baby boomers travel more than any other age group in America—and that an ever increasing number of them are looking for ways to spend their leisure time in substantial, meaningful ways. One especially fast-growing area of interest is the "experience-driven" or "wellness" vacation, a proactive approach based on the idea that true recreation involves positive engagement: acquiring a new skill or volunteering to share your own expertise; exercising your intellect or extending yourself in some creative, physical, or spiritual way. In response to such aspirations, this timely book showcases a broad range of the most life-enriching getaways in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, with something for every taste and every interest. Here are programs dedicated to kayaking lessons, mountain biking, yoga instruction, and more. Perhaps you'd prefer to spend an arts and crafts holiday focused on a creative activity like cooking, painting, or woodworking. Imagine studying French in a Maine village, learning about nutrition at a historic North Carolina spa, or helping rebuild the devastated communities of the Gulf Coast. Weave a Navajo rug; make a film in New York; learn to surf in Mexico; or choose any of scores of other possibilities. Elegantly designed and packed with attractive and fun descriptions, detailed travel information, lists of unique activities, and special sidebars, this unusual resource tells you all you need to know to ensure that your next vacation won't just be time off—it will be time well spent.

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“Delightful and anti-reverential”—Sunday Times (London) With an encyclopedic knowledge of opera and a delightful dash of irreverence, Sir Denis Forman throws open the world of opera—its structure, composers, conductors, and artists—in this hugely informative guide. *A Night at the Opera* dissects the eighty-three most popular operas recorded on compact disc, from Cilea's *Adriana Lecouvreur* to Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*. For each opera, Sir Denis details the plot and cast of characters, awarding stars to parts that are “worth looking out for,” “really good,” or, occasionally, “stunning.” He goes on to tell the history of each opera and its early reception. Finally, each work is graded from alpha to gamma (although the Ring cycle gets an “X”), and Sir Denis has no qualms about voicing his opinion: the first act of *Fidelio* is “a bit of a mess,” while the last scene of *Don Giovanni* “towers above the comic finales of *Figaro* and *Così* and whether or not [it] is Mozart's greatest opera, it is certainly his most powerful finale.” The guide also presents brief biographies of the great composers, conductors, and singers. A glossary of musical terms is included, as well as *Operatica*, or the essential elements of opera, from the proper place and style of the audience's applause (and boos) to the use of subtitles. *A Night at the Opera* is for connoisseurs and neophytes alike. It will entertain and inform, delight and (perhaps) infuriate, providing a subject for lively debate and ready reference for years to come.

### **Opera Plot Index**

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Covering famous operas from 14 Italian, French and German composers, this handbook is designed to help listeners understand and appreciate the special skills required to sing famous operatic songs. The book includes a plot synopsis of each opera with information about each song, which are introduced in their dramatic settings along with the vocal requirements for the most demanding passages. Interactive literary and rhyming exercises help the reader become more engaged and knowledgeable. Foreign language passages are translated into English and key words are highlighted in each language. The operatic vocabulary is defined to help the listener better understand the technical demands for a highly trained voice. The book is designed as a useful handbook for both experienced and beginning opera listeners. Appendices provide information on singers, recordings and useful references.

### **Opera a to Z**

A wide-ranging look at the interplay of opera and political ideas through the centuries *The Politics of Opera* takes readers on a fascinating journey into the entwined development of opera and politics, from the Renaissance through the turn of the nineteenth century. What political backdrops have shaped opera? How has opera conveyed the political ideas of its times? Delving into European history and thought and music by such greats as Monteverdi, Lully, Rameau, and Mozart, Mitchell Cohen reveals how politics—through story lines, symbols, harmonies, and

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musical motifs—has played an operatic role both robust and sotto voce. This is an engrossing book that will interest all who love opera and are intrigued by politics.

### **The Phantom of the Opera**

An illustrated retelling of the plots of fifteen well-known operas.

### **Paperbound Books in Print**

This reference source in dictionary format is excellent for looking up anything from specific data on a particular opera to which aria is connected with which opera.

### **The Reader's Adviser**

Provides biographical sketches for nearly 850 composers along with articles on approximately 2,000 works.

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