Italian Opera from The Barber of Seville to Turandot

John Gibbons

john@holdekunst.com



Week	Composers	Featured Works
1-2	Mozart	La Clemenza di Tito, 1791
	Rossini	Semiramide, 1823
	Mozart	Cosi fan tutte, 1790
	Rossini	The Barber of Seville, 1816
3-4	Bellini	Norma, 1831
		I Puritani, 1834
	Donizetti	Lucia di Lammermoor, 1835
		L'elisir d'amore, 1832
5-6	Verdi	Rigoletto, 1851
		Il Trovatore, 1853
		La forze del destino, 1862
		Don Carlos, 1867; Don Carlo, 1872
		Falstaff, 1893
7-8	Mascagni	L'amico Fritz, 1891
		Cavalleria Rusticana, 1890
	Leoncavallo	Pagliacci, 1892
	Ponchielli	La Giaconda, 1896
	Catalani	La Wally, 1892
	Puccini	La Boheme, 1896
		Tosca, 1900
		Gianni Schicchi, 1918
		Turandot, 1926

Description: Mozart's "Italian" opera styles (opera seria and opera buffa) are examined as the foundation of modern Italian opera. For roughly a century, opera in Italy constituted an authentically popular yet highly sophisticated art form that evolved its own characteristic, organic nature and yet reflected a complex array of aesthetic, social, and political developments. The vocal glories of Bel Canto style as exemplified by Bellini, the dynamic and intensely human drama of Verdi, and the grandiloquent theatricality of Puccini will form the cornerstones of our analysis and discussion. Great operas by Puccini's contemporaries such as "Pagliacci" and "La Giaconda" are looked at. DVDs (with English translations) will allow for full immersion in works that will include Norma, Lucia, Rigoletto, and Tosca, among others.









