

School of Extended Studies
PO Box 1491
Portland, OR 97207-1491



*Are you getting all you can
out of your opera experience?*

Designed for the opera aficionado, the newcomer, and everyone in between, this series of eight lectures is presented by the witty, articulate, and knowledgeable Michael Berkson. In addition to exploring the cultural, historical, and conventional meanings of opera, consideration is given to the appeal of opera and its sometimes romanticized and foreign image. Lectures are supported by video and student performances.

- To register for this noncredit course, call 503-725-4832 or 1-800-547-8887 ext 4832; stop by the School of Extended Studies, 1633 SW Park Avenue; or mail the attached registration form with payment to PSU Extended Studies, PO Box 1393, Portland, OR 97207.
- All classes are self-supporting and may be canceled for insufficient enrollment. Those who have registered receive full refunds.
- If you decide not to take a class, refunds are given up to one week prior to the start of class; no refunds are given after that date.
- The School of Extended Studies fully supports the right of equal access to its classes by students with disabilities and makes every reasonable effort to ensure this access. Students with disabilities who require assistance should contact us at 503-725-4184 at least 15 working days before the scheduled beginning date of the course.

Call 503-72-LEARN for information about other programs.



2009
2010

OPERA

APPRECIATION

LECTURE SERIES

All classes are held at Portland State University on Saturdays, noon-2pm in the classrooms noted below.

La Bohème

Room TBA/September 19, 2009

An examination of Giacomo Puccini's well-loved opera recounting the lively, yet poignant, adventures of a group of starving young artists and their charming female companions in 19th century Paris; in preparation for Portland Opera's presentation of the work beginning on September 25; attention to the opera's libretto, musical highlights, and circumstances of composition. Video examples.

Orphée

Room TBA/October 31, 2009

An examination of Philip Glass's 20th century work, providing an operatic adaptation of the Jean Cocteau film that updates the ancient Greek myth to modern times. The poet (musician) Orphée (Orpheus), in mourning for the death of his wife, Eurydice (Euridice), is permitted by supernatural powers to visit her in the land of the dead, from where he attempts to return with her to the world of the living. In preparation for Portland Opera's presentation of the work beginning on November 6; attention to the opera's libretto and circumstances of composition. Performance examples.

Quick Previews of Met Simulcasts

Room TBA/December 5, 2009

An opportunity to become better acquainted with the particular operas scheduled for movie-theatre simulcast of Metropolitan Opera productions during the remaining parts of the season (after this 12/5/09 date). A brief introduction to less familiar works: Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra*, Thomas's *Hamlet*, and Rossini's *Armida*, as well as a quick acknowledgement of the more familiar *The Tales of Hoffmann* (Offenbach), *Der Rosenkavalier* (Richard Strauss), and *Carmen* (Bizet). A few video examples.

PSU SCHOOL OF EXTENDED STUDIES
Offered in collaboration with the Portland Opera
and the School of Fine and Performing Arts
www.extended.pdx.edu/opera.htm

Singers Working

Cramer Hall 453/January 16, 2010

An examination of the solo voice as an operatic instrument, with a group of young singers to offer live performances and demonstrations of vocal technique for the class. Presentations will include fully prepared performances as well as rehearsal procedures for work-in-progress. The young artists will also discuss their craft and working procedures.

Così Fan Tutte

Room TBA/January 30, 2010

An examination of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's sparkling treatment of the tale of a wager in which two young men test the faithfulness of their respective sweethearts only to discover new insights about the power of love. In preparation for Portland Opera's presentation of the work beginning on February 5; attention to the opera's libretto, musical highlights, and circumstances of composition. Video examples.

Trouble in Tahiti

Room TBA/March 20, 2010

An examination of Leonard Bernstein's one-act opera offering a lively look at a suburban American marriage of the 1950s, in which the couple is presented in a manner that alternates deeply serious moments with delightful comedy. Portland Opera will present the work with two one-act pieces by 17th century composer Claudio Monteverdi: *Il Ballo delle Ingrate* (The Dance of the Ungrateful Women) and *Il Conbattimento di Tancredi e Clorinda* (The Battle of Tancredi and Clorinda). In preparation for Portland Opera's presentation of these works beginning on March 26; attention to the operas' libretti, musical highlights, and circumstances of composition. Assorted video and audio examples of performances.

A Performance in the Making

Cramer Hall 453/April 3, 2010

An examination of the preparation for the Portland State production of Franz Lehár's *The Merry Widow*, shortly before its opening performance on April 16, 2010, with artistic participants on hand to discuss and demonstrate/perform the work they are in the midst of doing. Class discussion will offer information about the opera itself and the particular production in preparation.

The Barber of Seville

Room TBA/April 24, 2010

An examination of Gioacchino Rossini's rollicking comedy, in which a most ingenious barber makes it possible for the union of a pair of charming young lovers, in spite of the vigorous scheming of a money-hungry guardian, who hopes to capture for himself the girl's hand, as well as her fortune. In preparation for Portland Opera's presentation of the work beginning on May 7; attention to the opera's libretto, musical highlights, and circumstances of composition. Video examples.

REGISTRATION FORM



- \$7.50 per class for full-time students
- \$20 per class (preregistration recommended)
- \$130 for one season subscription
- \$200 for two season subscriptions

Subscriptions must be purchased on or before the first lecture, September 20, 2008.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sep 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan 30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Apr 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oct 31 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mar 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Apr 24 |

Name _____

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Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____ *Social Security # _____

Check enclosed (payable to Portland State University)

Please charge my Visa MasterCard # _____ Expiration date _____

Authorized signature _____

Return completed registration form and full payment to:

Portland State University, School of Extended Studies, PO Box 1393, Portland, OR 97207, or call 503-725-4832, 1-800-547-8887 ext 4832

*SSN optional unless applying for tax credit. If you choose not to use SSN, an ID number will be assigned for you.