



A Nonprofit Education Corporation
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WAGNER'S RING CYCLE

Presented by: Dr. Robert Weinman
 Two Thursdays, April 29 & May 6, 1:30-5:00pm
 Valle Verde Auditorium
 900 Calle De Los Amigos

If you don't know the *Ring* now is your chance to put aside any prejudices and give what many think is the ultimate opera a try. If you already are a fan come and expand your knowledge and pleasure.

The course will be designed to have as much audience participation as possible. Certain that there will be a wide range of knowledge about the Ring among the audience members, we will begin by getting to know about each other's experiences.

In order to provide some common ground of experience there will be a thorough presentation of the entire *Ring* on video (abridged of course) with narrative for the missing pieces so that at the end everyone will know the story. The videos will be excerpted from a variety of productions so that we get a sense of their variety from different directors and different singers.



Captain St. Lucifer

Some time will be devoted to studying the text as poetry and to the unique way Wagner composed the music using leitmotifs, but there will not be much heavy musical analysis.

This will be followed by the really fun part—discussing what it all means. There are no answers to such questions, but it is good to know about all the various alternatives. This should lead to lively discussions! The interpretations by various authors and directors will be covered, including, of course, the Los Angeles *Ring* that is about to be presented in Los Angeles.

ENROLLMENT FORM: Wagner's Ring Cycle

VISTAS Members: \$20 Non-Members: \$30

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Email:** _____

**Mail to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc., P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-3228
 or reply by email (vistas@silcom.com) or by phone (967-6030)**

**Deadline for registration: April 23, 2010
 If you are interested in ride-sharing, please circle here**

When he was 12 years old, Dr. Bob Weinman's father took him to the old Met on 39th St. to see his first opera. It was *Carmen*, with Rise Stevens, Jan Peerce and Robert Merrill. Needless to say, he was smitten, and opera has been a part of his life ever since. After studying physics at Cornell and Caltech, his career as a rocket scientist responsible for the theoretical aspects of the design of the guidance system for the MX missile gave him plenty of opportunity to attend hundreds of performances all over the world and to study musicology in his spare time.

Now retired, Dr. Weinman devotes a large part of his time to the Music Academy of the West where he is a

Director and where he also lectures on various aspects of the summer music program.

Dr. Weinman came to the Ring late, only eight years ago, but fell for it hook, line and sinker. He had resisted because he thought Wagner was despicable, and that the Ring would be silly, over-blown and boring. What a joy to have been so completely wrong! While not a "ring head" he has devoted much time to studying the operas and attending many Ring performances. He was recently a part of the Long Beach Opera *Ring* and as a videographer produced a set of DVDs of the production.

VISTAS Winter 2010 Calendar

Seminar/Event	Inclusive Dates	Time	Venue
Documentary (ongoing)	Third Thurs every month	2:00pm	Maravilla Theater
Lawn Bowling	Sun, April 18	2:00pm-5:00pm	MacKenzie Lawn Bowl Club
Wittgenstein Concert	Mon, April 19	2:30-4:30pm	University Club
Meeting of Minds	Wed, May 12	9:30am-12:30pm	Valle Verde Social Room
Maritime History of Baja	May 11, 18, 25	1:30-4:30pm	Valle Verde Auditorium
Spanish Civil War	Wed, June 2, 9, 16	10:00am-1pm	Valle Verde Auditorium



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