



LEGENDARY LOVERS IN OPERA

Presented by: Simon Williams

Tuesday, Jan. 23, Tuesday, Jan. 30, and Wednesday, Feb. 7

9:30 a.m. – 12 noon

The Music Academy
1070 Fairway Road, Santa Barbara

805-967-6030

vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org

There is one theme in opera that has been treated more frequently than any other, and that is Romantic love. Indeed, there are very few operas that do not, to a greater or lesser degree, feature Romantic love as a principal concern. Perhaps one of the major reasons for this is the suitability of operatic music to explore all aspects of the absorbing phenomenon of this emotional experience, which is central to human life.



In three separate sessions, Simon Williams will explain why Romantic love has been such a persistent preoccupation for composers of opera and explore how such love has been seen as both a blessing and a curse. In particular Professor Williams will focus on the unsettling association, even on the interdependence, of Romantic love and death. The operas he will discuss are taken from the mainstream repertoire. The first talk will center on Donizetti’s *Lucia di Lammermoor* and Verdi’s *La traviata*, two of the classic tragedies of the Romantic age; the second talk will explore contrasting concepts of love in Wagner’s *Die Walküre* and *Tristan und Isolde*; the final talk will focus on Bizet’s *Carmen*, Massenet’s *Thais*, and Zandonai’s *Francesca da Rimini*.

All talks will include video extracts and should be of interest both to those who are new to opera and to seasoned operagoers.

----- Preferred registration deadline*: January 16, 2024 -----

*Early enrollment helps us with our planning; also, those who register by the preferred deadline will be given priority in case of over-enrollment.

Enrollment form: **Legendary Lovers in Opera**

Three sessions: Two Tuesdays, Jan. 23 and 30, AND one Wednesday, Feb. 7

VISTAS members \$40; non-members \$60

- **EITHER pay online** on our website by secure credit card through PayPal:
<https://www.vistaslifelonglearning.org/current-courses>
- **OR mail this form** and your check to: VISTAS Lifelong Learning, Inc.
P.O. Box 23228, Santa Barbara CA 93121

Number of persons _____ \$ _____ Check # _____

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

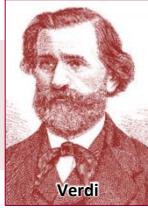
It is understood that attendance is limited to those who are fully vaccinated against Covid-19.



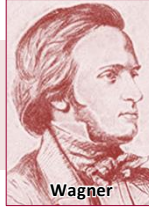
Simon Williams, now retired, was a Professor in the Department of Theater and Dance at UCSB for over 30 years. He has published widely in the fields of European continental theatre, the history of acting, Shakespearean performance, and operatic history. In addition, he has contributed numerous articles in his fields of specialty and is also an active reviewer for opera publications. Professor Williams is on the boards of Opera Santa Barbara and The Ensemble Theatre. In recent years he has presented a number of remarkable and memorable VISTAS courses.



Donizetti



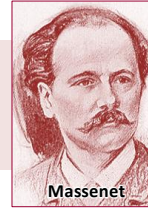
Verdi



Wagner



Bizet



Massenet



Zandonai

IMPORTANT COVID-19 POLICY

The health and safety of our attendees and their families are of utmost importance to us. **Accordingly, we are limiting attendance to those who are fully vaccinated.** Proof of vaccinations and boosters (digital Covid-19 Vaccination Card or a photo of your printed card) must be sent to our business manager via email (vistas@vistaslifelonglearning.org) or text (805-967-6030). This needs to be done only once—your proof of vaccination will remain valid for all VISTAS events. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.



VISTAS Winter/Spring 2024 Calendar

SUBJECT TO CHANGE; for up-to-date information, visit our website (VistasLifelongLearning.org) frequently!

Course / Event	Date(s)	Time	Venue
VISTAS Winter Social	Sunday, February 4	1:30 pm	The Music Academy
Fiction Book Club	3rd Thursday monthly	10:00 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Monday Nonfiction Book Club	4th Monday monthly	1:30 pm	Via Zoom
The SB Civil Grand Jury: The Public's Watchdog	Mon. Jan. 8 and 15	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Not Just a Pretty Place: Science at SB Botanic Garden	Tues. Jan. 9	1:00 pm	SB Botanic Garden
Legendary Lovers in Opera	Tues. Jan. 23, 30, Wed. Feb. 7	9:30 am	The Music Academy
The Hapsburgs	Thurs. Jan. 25 and Feb. 1	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
The Five Good Emperors	Mon. Feb. 5	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
Celebrating 100 Years of the Granada Theatre	Mon. Feb. 12	1:00 pm	Grenada Theatre
Whose Land Is It, Anyway?	Tues. Feb. 13, 20, 27, Mar. 5	9:30 am	The Music Academy
The Climate Crisis: Where We Are, What We Can Do	Weds. Feb. 21, 28, Mar. 6	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
<i>The Lafayette Escadrille and The Millionaires' Unit</i>	Thurs. Feb. 29, Mar. 7	1:00 pm	Valle Verde Theater
Conserving the Gaviota Coast, in Pictures and Stories	Mon. March 4	9:30 am	Bethany Cong. Church
Annual Short Story Discussion Group, Section 1	Wed. Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27	1:00 pm	Valle Verde Social Room
Annual Short Story Discussion Group, Section 2	Thurs. Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28	1:00 pm	Montecito Covenant Church
Heroes & Rogues, Series 5	Mon. Mar. 11, 18, 25	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
American Folk Music Revival of the 20th Century	Mon. April 1, 8, 15, 22	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
String Quartets in the Vienna in Beethoven's Time	Wed. April 3, 10, 17	9:30 am	The Music Academy
Will China (Still) Eat Our Lunch?	Thurs. April 4	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
<i>Sinkable: Adventures with Shipwrecks</i>	Wed. April 24	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
The Golden Age of the Broadway Musical	Fri. May 3, 10, 17	9:30 am	The Music Academy
Artistic Renderings of Human Body / Women Artists	Mon. May 6	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church
The Magic Behind TV Music	Wed. May 8	1:00 pm	Bethany Congreg. Church
13,000 Years of Local Maritime History / Whales	Mon. May 13	9:30 am	SB Maritime Museum
The Immigration Conundrum	Wed. May 15, 23	9:30 am	Bethany Congreg. Church