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The Book of World-Famous Libretti: The Musical Theater from to Today (Ex) [James Fuld] on calendrierdelascience.com
**FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. In this handsome and invaluable book, James Fuld, author of The Book of World-Famous Music, examines the libretti of works of musical theater.*

Monteverdi was the "founding father" of operatic form. Euridice dies from a snake bite. The sorrowful Orpheus, through his music, tries to save her from the Underworld. In addition to sailors and witches, Purcell gave us one of the most sublime laments in opera: Caesar, written for castrato, is often sung by a countertenor. A plot of jealousy, infidelity and treachery results in a cocktail of bravura music. A mix of old and new styles, poised at the birth of Romanticism, this is regarded as one of the key operas of the 18th century. Others find it too long, and the garden scene dreary. The Queen called it "the one about the [lost] pin". The music is ravishing, some of it probably familiar. Its prominent use of dialogue makes it a challenge to stage. Mozart died only weeks after completing it. For many his Egyptian Aida is an ideal first opera. For dramatic intensity, Rigoletto "compact, tuneful, melodramatic" is even better. The hunchback prompts pity when he tries to protect his daughter. Mimi, the Bohemian seamstress of the title, her poet lover Rodolfo and their destitute Parisian friends capture the pains and pleasures of young love in an attic. He abandons her, then returns with a wife. After a first-night disaster, it became one of the best-loved operas. When Puccini died leaving the opera incomplete, it was finished by a composer friend, Alfano. Leonora dresses as a man, Fidelio, to rescue her husband Florestan from imprisonment. It concerns the shooting trials of young hunters to win their lovers. The hero Max transgresses by using "free" magic bullets. Good and evil struggle in a vivid, tuneful display of high German Romanticism. Catch it when it is. This is perhaps the last great Romantic opera, rich with symbolism, myth, taboo: A knight in shining armour arrives in a swan-drawn boat. You can guess what it is. As usual, Wagner wrote his own libretto. Isolde is betrothed to King Mark. After a mix-up, she and Tristan drink a love potion and fall cataclysmically in love. This is "extreme opera", full of ecstatic thrills in very slow motion, but worth every note. The plot revolves around a song contest, and celebrates all art, especially German. The music is uplifting, the choruses magnificent. By any reckoning The Ring is among the mightiest single monuments of art created by one person. The eponymous widow, Hanna Glawari, is not only merry but fabulously rich. Too much fun for some tastes. Salome desires John the Baptist. In this bitter-sweet comedy an older woman the Marschallin sees she must send her young lover into the arms of another. The final trio sends opera-buffs into an ultimate swoon. Immensely expensive to stage, The Trojans is sometimes split across two evenings. Never pass up a chance to see it. The Gypsy dancer at the cigarette factory who breaks hearts and meets her doom outside the bullring offers an ideal start to opera. An acquired taste "but well worth acquiring. Folk-inspired dances, a drinking song and a story of young lovers thwarted by an official betrothal make this an engaging Czech tale of village life. The reluctant Boris, filled with foreboding and guilt for a murder, is appointed tsar. The people grow hungry and rebellious. Pretenders vie for the throne. Boris becomes deranged, the soul of Russia "expressed through anguished choruses" troubled. This is one of the Russian operatic greats. Her granddaughter Lisa falls in love with a young officer, Hermann, who is desperate to learn that secret. A hot-blooded thriller set to impassioned music. While her husband is away, the bored, frustrated Katerina Izmailova murders her father-in-law and takes a lover. A tragic soap opera unfolds. Only a remote connection with Shakespeare. Tom Rakewell falls under the spell of Nick Shadow, and opts for a sybaritic life of easy riches. But Nick is the devil. Tom ends up penniless and mad in Bedlam. Guilt rips through a Czech village community. She demands that he unlock the doors of his castle. Blood, money, a lake of tears and other wives lurk behind them. In , Birmingham Opera Company mounted a community version in a warehouse, renaming it Votzek; it was a sellout, its story instantly comprehensible. Every folk-jazz inspired number is a hit: Confused issues of racism linger. His retelling of the tragedy of Priam, King of Troy, is intense, violent, poignant and highly original. The Grand Macabre announces that at midnight the world will end.

Chapter 2 : Most Famous Authors - List of Famous Writers in History

In this handsome and invaluable book, James Fuld, author of The Book of World-Famous Music, examines the libretti of works of musical theater. For each opera, operetta, or musical comedy libretto, he supplies a facsimile of the title page (see opposite) and, facing, all the relevant facts that can be gleaned from a close study of the.

The first and most innovative of three middle period Verdi operas which have become staples of the repertoire. The role of Violetta, the "fallen woman" of the title, is one of the most famous vehicles for the soprano voice. By the time he came to write *Un ballo in maschera*, Verdi was rich enough not to have to work for a living. This opera ran into trouble with the censors because it originally dealt with the assassination of a monarch. The last opera Berlioz wrote is the fruit of his lifelong admiration for Shakespeare. This tragedy was commissioned by the Imperial Theatre, Saint Petersburg, and Verdi may have been influenced by the Russian tradition in the writing of his work. Another operetta by Offenbach which pokes fun at Greek mythology. The "Tristan chord" began the breakdown of traditional tonality. Set in Peru, this operetta mixes comedy and sentimentality. Though most famous as a librettist for Verdi, Boito was also a composer and he spent many years working on this musical version of the Faust myth. Features one of the greatest tenor arias of all time, *Celeste Aida*. Probably the most popular of all operettas. Another comedy by Smetana, the only one of his operas with a non-Czech subject. Probably the most famous of all French operas. The third part of the Ring sees the hero Siegfried slay the dragon Fafner, win the ring and free Brunhilde from her enchantment. This comic piece has been described as "a cross between *Carmen* and *Gilbert and Sullivan*, with plenty of Offenbach thrown in". An opera with that was heavily influenced by those of Wagner. The composer strongly identified with the heroine Tatyana. Nevertheless, this is his most widely performed opera today. Verdi heavily revised this opera over twenty years after it was first performed. An early operatic work by Puccini with plenty of opportunity for dance. A Breton folk tale with music heavily influenced by Wagner. Borodin spent 17 years working on this opera off and on, yet never managed to finish it. Most famous for its "Polovtsian dances". In a letter to his brother and librettist the composer said that "the opera is a masterpiece". This work has been thought of as a late example of opera semiseria. Debussy is alleged to have said that no one had detailed Paris at that time better than had Puccini in *La Boheme*. Originally a melodrama that blended song and spoken dialogue, the composer adapted the work into an opera proper in . An immediate success at the time of the premiere, the opera enjoyed 50 performances in alone. The lack of a love interest makes the plot of this work almost unique among Czech comic operas. An attempt to provide a French equivalent for Italian verismo, *Louise* is set in a working-class district of Paris. One of the most famous Viennese operettas. A tragedy of unhappy love set in Switzerland; the most famous music is the interlude "The Walk to the Paradise Garden". A mystical retelling of an old national legend. Sometimes called the Russian *Parsifal*. Described by Puccini as his best work. A mixture of comedy and tragedy with an opera within an opera. A passionate Spanish drama influenced by verismo.

Chapter 3 : Results for James-J-Fuld | Book Depository

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Newman was aware that no biography can ever claim to be complete or completely accurate: All he can do is to make sure that whatever statement he may make, whatever conclusion he may come to, shall be based on the whole of the evidence available at the time of writing. Cambridge University Press 31 May Language: This incongruity testifies to the surprising difficulties during the nineteenth century of conceptualizing melody. Despite its indispensable place in opera, contemporary theorists were unable even to agree on a definition for it. Interweaving a rich variety of material from the history of science, music theory, music criticism, private correspondence and court reports, Trippett uncovers a new and controversial discourse that placed melody at the apex of artistic self-consciousness and generated problems of urgent dimensions for German music aesthetics. Fresh analytic perspectives are revealed, casting the dramatic meaning of Parsifal in a new light. Cambridge University Press; 1 edition 3 Jun Language: But DiGaetani is a noted publisher and writer of books about Wagner and his works. Reaktion Books 1 Sep Language: Glorian Publishing Oct Language: Art can show that the symbols which religions would have us believe literally true are actually figurative. Art can idealize those symbols, and so reveal the profound truths they contain. Wagner himself never explained Parsifal, and in his wake thousands of writers, critics, and artists have attempted to penetrate its mysteries yet have failed, since they were not initiated into the secret tradition it came from. Finally, in this book by Samael Aun Weor, the meaning of Parsifal is fully revealed, and the genius and spiritual accomplishments of Richard Wagner are made radiantly clear. Limelight Editions 15 Oct Language: The Lighter Side appeals to classical music and opera enthusiasts in general, but particularly the many thousands of members of the Wagner Societies around the world. Also included are interviews with current Wagnerian scholars. The Lighter Side contains more than tidbits and features, ranging from a few paragraphs to several pages. Illustrations include photographs, dozens of contemporary caricatures, beautiful postage stamps on Wagnerian subjects, and other reproductions of ephemera.

Chapter 4 : List of important operas - Wikipedia

In this handsome and invaluable book James Fuld author of The Book of World-Famous Music examines the libretti of works of musical theater. For each opera operetta or musical comedy libretto he supplies a facsimile of the title page (see opposite) and facing all the relevant facts that can be gleaned from a close study of the original publication.

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