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Famous Italian Opera Arias: A Dual-Language Book



Synopsis

With this handy dual-language volume, students of Italian can improve their knowledge of the language while enjoying the passion and poetry of some of the most famous arias ever written. Included are 141 arias from 29 operas by Verdi, Puccini, Mozart, Donizetti, Bellini, and 12 other composers. Among the individual arias are "Caro nome" from Rigoletto, "Non piÃfÃ andrai" from The Marriage of Figaro, the Mad Scene from Lucia di Lammermoor and "Casta diva" from Norma, as well as memorable selections from Il Trovatore, Otello, Madama Butterfly, Tosca, La Boheme, L'Elisir d' Amore, La Sonnambula, and many more. The Italian text is printed in the form of the librettists' original poetry. These have been translated by Ellen H. Bleiler into excellent line-for-line English versions in facing columns, allowing language students and music lovers alike the opportunity to study and enjoy these celebrated "solos" from the finest Italian operas.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English, Italian (translation) Original Language: Italian

I purchased this a few years ago and found it extremely useful. Now I cannot find the original and am ordering another copy. I found it practical, useful, correct, the right size, etc. and would recommend it to anyone who is serious about opera.

very good

Not our most favorite but fun none the less. Focus is on the main characters, yet there others that are more poetic within the same opera.

I like to listen to operatic recital recordings, and many of them don't come with texts and English translations, so I find this book very useful. It includes most of the famous Italian arias, and the English translations are wonderfully clear and concise. Wish I could find a similar book for French opera arias!

Copyrighted in 1996, you'd think that Bleiler ran into copyright problems with the world's most popular aria of the 90's. Turandot isn't mentioned at all. There are, however, Italian arias and English translations from 49 other opera. My Italian's not that good, but it appears to me that the translations are faithful to the Italian text, rather than having a focus on poetic interpretations. This is what you need if you simply want to know what those beautiful Italian words mean. There are no plot synopses (nor did they promise any). It's short and sweet and well worth the price.

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