

The Role of the Chorus in Italian Opera

Wednesday, February 22, 2012

Chairperson: Vic DeBartlo

A group of happy villagers, a boisterous gang of thieves, a crowd cheering a hero, another crowd decrying a villain, a group of slaves lamenting their status, and a joyous party gathering - - what is their essential role in the plot of each opera? At times their song is only background to otherwise dramatic events like a procession of monks; at other times they are the main protagonist shouting defiance against evil rulers. These various roles will be examined in popular Italian operas.

Gordon Greene is a cultural historian whose study of the place of music in society over the centuries has made him a popular lecturer in universities for 40 years and more recently in lifelong learning classes in Ontario and Florida. He earned a BA in English Lit, and MA in philosophy from the University of Alberta, and PhD in music history from Indiana University.

Stonebridge Country Club
Price: \$10

Lecture at 1:00
Preceded by optional cash lunch 12:00