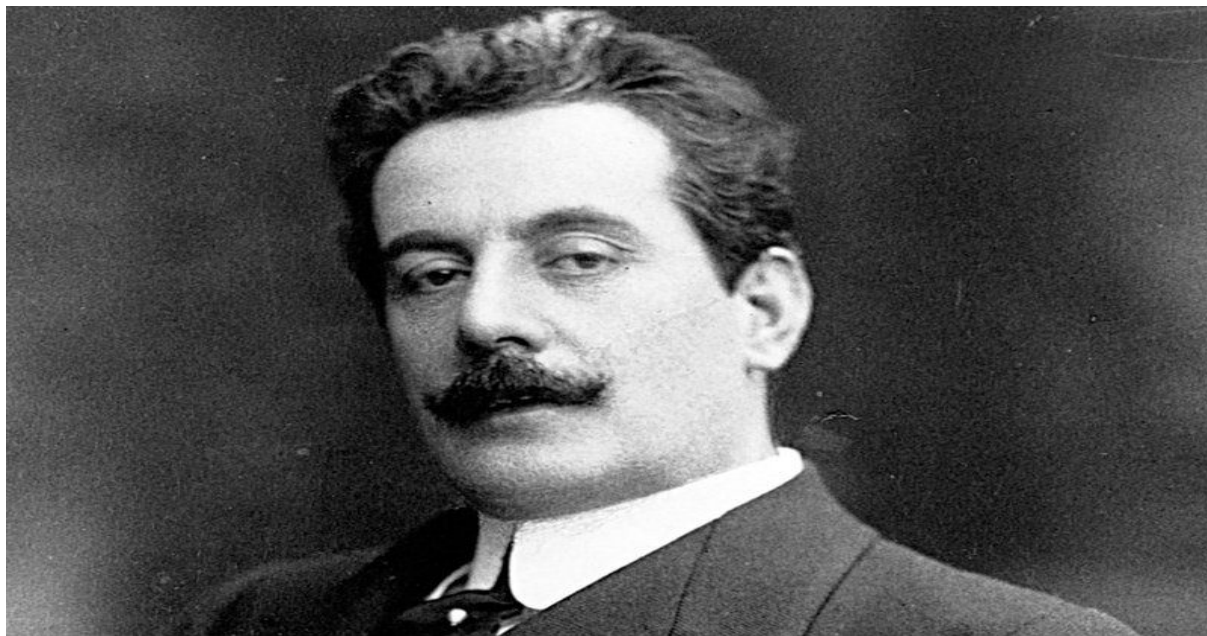


# Opera

by: Darius Bermudez (Bible Boy)

Puccini



# Madame Butterfly

- Cio-Cio-San stabs herself when she learns Lieutenant Pinkerton is returning with his American wife Kate
- Un Bel Di (One Beautiful Day): Cio-Cio-San's aria about two robins building their nest
- Uncle Bonze scolds Cio-Cio for switching religions, disgracing her ancestry
- Cio-Cio names her child Sorrow
- Pinkerton's first aria often includes notes from the "Star-Spangled Banner"

# Madame Butterfly- Harder Clues

- Lieutenant Pinkerton's boat is the USS Abraham Lincoln
- Suzuki is Cio-Cio's made, and Sharpless is her consul
- Pinkerton and Cio-Cio sing a love duet called "Viene la Sera"

# La Boheme

- Takes place in the Latin Quarter of Paris
- Basis for the musical Rent
- Mimi dies of tuberculosis in Rodolfo's arms
- Musetta becomes the escort of the elderly Alcindoro to make her former lover Marcello jealous. They later leave Alcindoro in a cafe to make him pay the bill
- Mimi tells Rodolfo to keep a pink bonnet under his pillow to remember her
- Colline pawns his coat and Musetta sells her earrings so Rodolfo can buy medicine for Mimi

# La Boheme- Harder Clues

- Musetta sings the aria “Quando me’n vo” to make Marcello jealous
- Musetta and Marcello sing the aria “Che Gelida Manina” when they reunite.

During their performance, two candles are blown out by the wind

# Turandot

- Calaf answers riddles to marry the title “icy” Chinese princess
- The “Unknown Prince” (Calaf) sings the aria “Nessun Dorma” which challenges Turandot to guess his name before dawn.
- Turandot’s three advisors are Ping, Pang, and Pong
- Franco Alfano finished this opera after Puccini died

# Turandot- harder clues

- Calaf declares “Vincero” (I will win) at the end of Nessun Dorma
- Turandot orders that no one go to sleep before figuring out Calaf’s name
- Turandot sings the aria “In Questa Reggia” before asking Calaf the riddles
- The Prince of Persia is executed at the beginning of this opera
- A servant stays loyal to their master because a prince smiled at them
- One woman stabs herself after declaring she was “enveloped in ice”



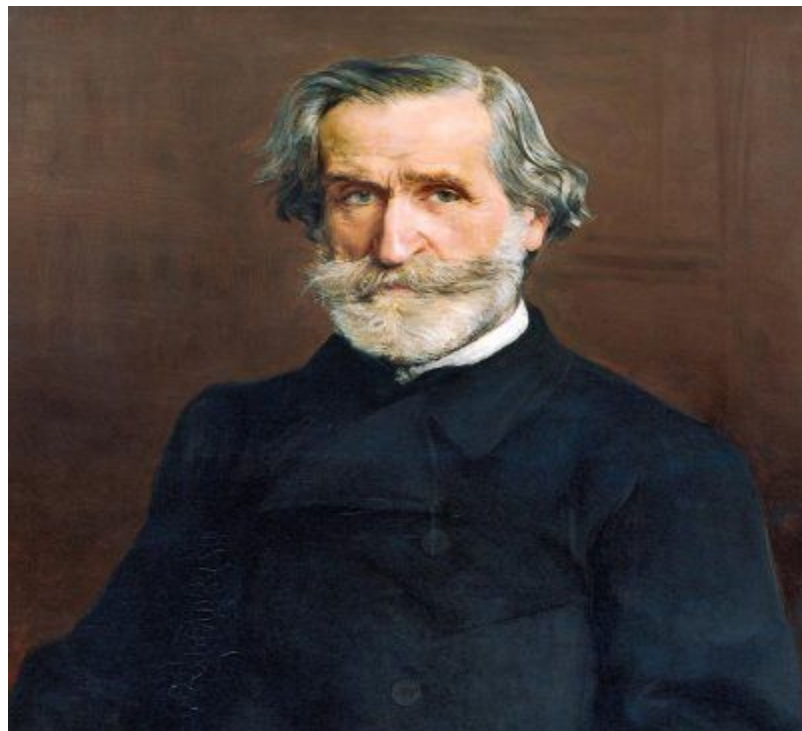
# Tosca

- The title woman (Floria) stabs Baron Scarpia and jumps to her death off of Castel Sant'Angelo.
- The painter Mario Cavaradossi (Tosca's lover) is killed in his false execution by a firing squad
- In the aria "Recondita Armonia", the brown-haired, black-eyed Tosca is compared to the blonde-haired, blue-eyed model for a painting of Mary Magdalene

# Tosca- Harder Clues

- Tosca reveals the hiding place of the escaped prisoner Angelotti to Baron Scarpia to save Mario
- In the aria “Vissi d’arte”, Tosca asks why God has forsaken her and “Vissi d’arte, vissi d’amore” (I’ve lived for art, I’ve lived for love)
- Tosca sings the aria “E Lucevan le stelle” where she says the “stars were shining”. The aria starts with a clarinet solo

Verdi



# Aida

- The title Ethiopian Princess and the Egyptian prince Radames are buried alive on the eve of his wedding inside the Temple of Vulcan
- Leontyne Price played Aida at the Met
- Aida's father Amonasro hides behind a rock and hears Radames reveal the location of the Egyptian army
- High Priest Ramfis sentences Radames to death for treason

# Aida- Harder Clues

- Amneris tricks Aida into confessing her love for Radames
- Aida wishes Radames victory in the aria “Ritorna Vincitor”.
- The Triumphal March was often performed with live elephants
- “O Patria Mia” is another famous aria by Aida, where her father commands her to betray Radames directly after

# Rigoletto

- The title hunchbacked court jester works for the Duke of Mantua
- Count Monterone puts a Father's Curse on Rigoletto
- After hearing the Duke sing about the "flightiness" of a woman in "La Donna e Mobile", Rigoletto realizes he has his dead daughter Gilda in his bag
- Gilda is in love with the student Gualtier Malde, whom is actually the Duke
- People think that Rigoletto's secret lover is actually Gilda

# Rigoletto- Harder Clues

- In “Pari Siamo”, Rigoletto compares himself to the assassin Sparafucile by claiming that Rigoletto’s weapon is his tongue while his is a dagger
- Rigoletto is blindfolded while steadying the ladder for his daughter’s killers
- The Duke sings about avoiding fidelity in the aria “Questa o Quella”

# Other Verdi opera

La Traviata- about the “Fallen Woman” Violetta and her romance with Alfredo

Il Trovatore- About the love of Manrico and Leonora; Anvil Chorus sung by working Gypsies



# Rossini



# William Tell

- The title Swiss hero shoots an apple off of his son Jemmy's head
- Austrian governor Gessler captures William Tell after he refuses to salute his hat
- Based on a play by Friedrich Schiller
- Includes the romance of Arnold and Princess Mathilde
- William Tell sings the aria "Sois Immobile" to tell Jimmy to "be still"

# William Tell- Harder Clues

- Arnold declares vengeance on the Austrians for killing his father in the aria “Asile hereditaire” after seeing the ruins of his home
- Gessler wants to toss William Tell into Lake Lucerne, which has many storms

# Barber of Seville

- Figaro helps Count Almaviva marry Rosina, despite the protests of Doctor Bartoro
- Most famous aria is “Largo al Factotum”, where Figaro states his name several times before appearing
- Count Almaviva disguises as a drunken soldier, a music teacher, and a student named Lindoro

# Barber of Seville- Harder Clues

- Figaro and Count Almaviva sneak onto Doctor Barltoro's balcony, but finds their ladder missing when they try to leave
- They bribe the music teacher Basilio to be sick with scarlet fever so Almaviva can give Rosina a singing lesson as Don Alonso
- Rosina writes a love letter to the student Lindoro (Almaviva), and says its a laundry list when asked about it

# Mozart



# Marriage of Figaro

- Continuation of the Barber of Seville
- On Susanna and Figaro's wedding day, Countess Rosina tries to stop Count Almaviva from falling in love with their servant (Susanna)
- In the Final Act, Susanna and Rosina switch clothes
- In one act, Susanna and Figaro measure out their bridal bed

# Marriage of Figaro- Harder Clues

- The page Cherubino serenades Countess Rosina while dressed as a flower girl
- In the aria “Non Piu Andrai,” Cherubino is mocked for trying to run and joining the military
- While jumping out a window, Cherubino breaks some flower pots



# The Magic Flute

- Tamino tries to save Pamina from the sorcerer Sarastro
- The real villain is the Queen of the Night, Pamina's mother
- The Three Ladies save Tamino from a giant snake at the beginning
- The birdcatcher Papageno dresses as a bird and his mouth padlocked by the Three Ladies after lying about saving Tamino
- The Queen of the Night gives Pamina a knife to kill Sarastro in the aria "Der Holle Rache"

# The Magic Flute- Harder Clues

- The aria “Der Holle Rache” (Hell’s Vengeance is in my heart) requires several F notes and an F6 to be hit
- Tamino is blessed by Isis and Osiris
- Papageno is given magic bells to summon his true love

# Don Giovanni

- Ends with the title seducer (womanizer, libertine, etc.) being dragged to hell  
the statue of Commendatore
- Don Ottavio, Donna Anna, and Donna Elvira (Giovanni's ex-fiance) swear  
vengeance on him after he kills Donna Anna's father
- Giovanni and Masetto's fiance Zerlina sing the aria "La ci darem la mano"

# Don Giovanni- Harder Clues

- The aria “Fin ch’han dal Vino” (Champagne Aria) is about a wedding feast held for servants who are told to drink “until they are tipsy”
- There is a reference to the earlier work “Marriage of Figaro” ‘s aria “Non Piu Andrai” which is complained about being heard too much

# Bizet



# Carmen

- The title Gypsy works in a cigarette factory
- Carmen is stabbed by Don Jose after choosing to be with the bullfighter Escamillo
- In the aria “Habanera”, Carmen declares that “love is a rebellious bird”
- Escamillo tells Carmen that “Dark eyes are watching you, and love awaits you” in his aria “Votre Toast”
- Escamillo sings the Toreador Song

# Carmen- Harder Clues

- Carmen is interrogated by Officer Zuniga, leader of the Dragoons. He is later attacked by cigarette smugglers and Don Jose who draws his sword
- Don Jose returns home after his sick mother sends him a letter that tells him to marry the delivery girl Micaela
- Carmen foreshadows her death when she draws the Ace of Spades

# Donizetti





# Lucia di Lammermoor

- The title woman kills her husband Arturo Ashton and then fantasizes about Edgardo Ravenswood in the aria “Il dolce suono” which is a “mad scene”
- Based on a novel by Sir Walter Scott
- Enrico stabs himself to be with Lucia in heaven
- Lucia tells her servant Elisa that she sees a ghost of a girl by a water fountain. The ghost warns Lucia that her love affair will cause her death
- Arturo (Lead tenor) takes off Lucia’s ring and stomps on it in the sextet “Chene me frena”, where Lucia reluctantly signs a marriage contract

# Lucia di Lammermoor- Harder Clues

- About the rival Scottish families of Ashton and Ravenswood
- In the sextet “Chi me frena”, the note F major transposed to an E flat
- A flute often accompanies Lucia in the “mad scene”