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La Camerata*

* a gathering of writers & musicians who, in the 16th Century, met to discuss art and experiment with the art form that is opera.

TuranDO or TuranDOT?

There is much debate over whether the name is pronounced TuranDO or TuranDOT. It seems it is questioned at every performance.

In case your were wondering, Turandot is a Persian name meaning 'daughter of Turan', Turan being a region of Asia which used to be part of the Persian Empire.

However, Simonetta Puccini, Pucinni's granddaughter, has stated that the final "T" must be pronounced.

For another take on this discussion and updates, visit Artistic Director Ty Paterson's blog: <http://maestroty.wordpress.com>

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In Opera Lyra Ottawa's production of Turandot opening on September 11th, Lori Phillips is the princess Turandot and Richard Margison is the love struck hero Calaf. Richard has sung the role of Calaf over 500 times!



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Soprano Shu-Ying Li is making her debut in Canada as Liù the loyal servant, in love with the hero Calaf, who dies to protect his secret and save his life.

Puccini's dramatic operas brought Shu-Ying to the opera world. She was formerly a Chinese traditional music performer and after being introduced to opera, returned to the Conservatory of Music in Shanghai to study.

"I knew my personality was suited to opera because I love the drama and I love to immerse myself in the characters."

Internationally, Shu-Ying Li is one of the most sought after performers for Puccini's operas. And she has an Emmy Award to prove it. The win was for the 2008 production of New York Opera's Madame Butterfly with Shu-Ying starring in the title role. It aired on 'Live from Lincoln Centre' on PBS.

Shu-Ying explained that opera is new to China, only about 10 years old or so. *"Now there are more opera companies and the audience is growing quickly. In China, you see all ages at performances."*

"Seeing an opera is like seeing a 4-D movie about life and it's a joy to experience the music."

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AND THE WINNER IS...

...Nils Le Pocher!
The winner of the 'Opera Under the Stars' contest is Nils Le Pocher. Mr. Le Pocher wins a subscription to Opera Lyra Ottawa's 2010 - 2011 season. Congratulations!

The next winner could be you!

The Jewel radio station is giving away 1 pair of opera tickets to Puccini's Turandot each morning between September 7 and 10, 2010. Listen to Good Morning Ottawa on The Jewel 98.5 for details.

Win tickets to Turandot at the NAC! Ottawakiosk.com will be giving away 2 pairs of tickets on September 18th including and invitation to the invitation-only backstage closing night party. Meet the singers and get a rare glimpse of backstage, sets and costumes.
For contest detail go to Ottawakiosk.com or [click here](#).

QUICK LINKS



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www.operalyra.ca

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Here's a quick synopsis of the opera. Feel free to forward it.

["Turandot by Puccini...in 66 seconds!"](#)

Experiencethe power and emotion of this opera live!
Opera Lyra Ottawa's production of Puccini's **Turandot** at the NAC
September 11, 13, 15 & 18, 2010.

Click [here](#) to buy your ticket today!

Calling all opera lovers...

Malcolm McCulloch is Opera Lyra Ottawa's Chairman of the Board of Directors. His passion for opera runs as deep as his commitment to keeping the art form alive in Ottawa.

"It gives me much pleasure to introduce you to our new season, beginning with **Turandot** on September 11th with other performances on September 13/15/18. Our Artistic Director, Tyrone Paterson, has put together a star-studded cast and this opera promises to be a huge success.

We become opera lovers through many different pathways. In my case, it was very early in life through the influence of my mother. Later, as an airline pilot, I would arrange my flights to be in Vienna, Milan or New York when opera was in season. When I moved to Ottawa fourteen years ago to start Canadian Rug Traders, it was quite natural for me to become a donor to Opera Lyra because I had a selfish interest in opera's survival. I wanted to have great opera in the city where I lived. Soon after my arrival here, I was asked to join the Board of Directors and last year I was honoured to be appointed Chairman.

Today, the performing arts, all over the world, are suffering from low audience support, increased production costs and strong competition from many forms of new entertainment media. To thrive in this environment, Opera Lyra needs to fill Southam Hall for all performances as we rely on box office revenues to pay for more than fifty per cent of our production costs. Remember: we are not part of the National Arts Centre and are not funded by that organization.

In order to ensure that we continue to have live, fully staged, professional opera in Ottawa, opera lovers will have to attend our performances, give generously and become ambassadors for opera by spreading the word around the community that we do have a great opera company worthy of our great city.

I look forward to seeing you at the opera."

Malcolm McCulloch
Chairman
Board of Directors
Opera Lyra Ottawa



Malcolm
McCulloch at
Opera Lyra
Ottawa's
Macbeth

Join us...

The Opera Lyra Ottawa Guild
Presents

Pre-Opera Chats

Join us for a short talk about the history of the opera and its composer, and learn little known facts about the show you are about to see - **Puccini's Turandot**
Pre-Opera Chats are free and presented at 7 :00 pm before each mainstage performance at the Southam Hall Mezzanine, NAC.

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Saturday, September 25
Opera Lyra Ottawa Participates in [CULTURE DAYS](#)
Featuring the Opera Studio members
& pianist Judith Ginsburg

10:00 am-12:30 pm
Mozart's *Così fan tutte*
2:00-4:30 pm
Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*

Coming soon...

A Cocktail and Concert Fundraiser

at the Residence of His Excellency François Delattre, the Ambassador of France.

October 5, 2010

Opera Lyra Ottawa is proud to announce an exciting collaboration with the Embassy of France this fall.

On October 5, Opera Lyra Ottawa will present an exclusive concert engagement for 80 guests. Hosted by acclaimed French Canadian Stage Director François Racine, and accompanied on piano by OLO Principal Repetiteur Judith Ginsburg, the concert will feature the excellent singers of Opera Lyra Ottawa's Opera Studio.



François Racine assisted Robert Lepage on his productions of *Erwartung* and *Bluebeard's Castle* at several leading opera companies including the Canadian Opera Company, Seattle Opera, Cincinnati Opera and Opéra de Montréal. Last July, Seattle Opera named him 'Artist of the Year, season 2008-09'. The eclectic program, created by M. Racine, will travel through exotic worlds highlighting French favorites such as *Carmen*, *Lakmé* and *Les pêcheurs de perle*.

Tickets for this event are limited and are available only at Opera Lyra Ottawa.

Travelling Through Exotic Worlds: A Cocktail and Concert Fundraiser at the French Embassy Tuesday, October 5, 2010, 7:00 to 9:00 pm, The Embassy of France in Canada, 42 Sussex Drive, Ottawa

Tickets for this evening of hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and concert are \$95 with a \$50 tax receipt. Proceeds will benefit Opera Lyra Ottawa. Tickets are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

For tickets and more information, please contact Tricia Johnson, Development Manager
613-233-9200 ext. 224 or tjohnson@operalyra.ca

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Opera Lyra Ottawa's Fall Colours Auction - October 20th, 2010 - Canadian War Museum

Donations to be auctioned are arriving daily - **international and local trips and get-aways, wines, gift certificates for fine dining, watches, golf and many more.** Join us for an evening of music, wine, cocktail dinatoire and dessert while bidding on silent and live auction offerings!

The Right Honourable Joe Clark and Ms. Maureen McTeer are hosting this affair to remember, along with our Co-Chairs, **Lieutenant General Andrew Leslie and Mrs. Karen Leslie.**

Tickets are available through Opera Lyra Ottawa Office - call Isabelle at 613-233-9200, ext. 225 or idubois@operalyra.ca

Did you know...?

For many years, the Government of the People's Republic of China forbid performances of Puccini's

Turandot. Finally, in 1988 they allowed it to be performed in the Forbidden City in Beijing. It was the most expensive Opera ever mounted - with a budget of \$15 million!

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