



Bedford Center for the Arts
Arts for All & All the Arts

Opera Lectures—3rd year

Do you love opera and want to get warmed up for the exciting upcoming season of Metropolitan Opera Live in HD Telecasts in local theatres? If the answer is “yes”, you’ll want to attend these lectures by Dave Collins, now in his third year as BCA’s opera guide, Opera Boston’s resident lecturer for 8 years, and lecturer in opera at many educational institutions in greater Boston. Dave will get you involved with video clips and recordings of great stars, past and present. He’ll also help you understand the background and plots of these operas.

1 Die Meistersinger, Monday, December 8, 7-9 pm

Back to the Met for the first time in 8 years, this epic comedy by Wagner is a story about a young knight who strives to win the hand of daughter of a Master Singer by winning a singing contest that has many rules he’s not mastered. Most people are familiar with the famous overture to this work and will recognize elements of the music in the story that unfolds. Dave will prepare us for the production to be conducted by James Levine with background on the story, video clips, and classic recordings from some of opera’s most famous stars.

2 Tales of Hoffman, Monday, January 26, 7-9 pm

This French opera by Offenbach contains some very familiar symphonic music. It is in the form of a story told by the poet Hoffman about his life’s three great loves. Dave will give us a preview of the music, including the famous “Doll Song”, in which the love is actually an automaton that periodically needs to be winded up.

3 Cavalleria Rusticana/Pagliacci, Monday, April 13, 7-9 pm

This production is probably the most famous double-bill in all of opera. Often known as Cav/Pag for short, the music contains such often heard, moving arias as the one sung by the clown, Pagliacci, who tells us how he must smile while his heart is broken. This is a great opportunity for those who are new to opera, and Dave will help you enjoy it all the more.

All meetings take place from 7-9 pm at First Parish Bedford

***To register, send a check made payable to Bedford Center for the Arts
to Bob Bass, 42 Fletcher Road, Bedford.***

BCA Members, \$15/session. Non-members, \$20

Register for one, two, or three sessions

Online registration at <https://bedfordarts.wildapricot.org/event-1747727>