

Opera: *Where to Start*

Even if you've never been to an opera before there's a good chance you've already heard some - [the duet from the Pearl Fishers](#) features in the Kiwi Rail ad, [Nessun dorma](#) was made famous by Pavarotti during the 1990 Fifa World Cup, the [Letter Duet](#) was used in a key scene in *The Shawshank Redemption*, and [La Forza del destino](#) was featured in a series of Stella Artois adverts from the 1990s.

With such a huge range of operatic styles, it's worth listening to the music of a few different composers if you are new to opera. We've listed a few below in no particular order and included an excerpt from one of their most well-known works. This is only a tiny selection of all the opera that is out there so have a look online or at your local library and you will discover a lot more. You may be amazed at what you might discover!

Puccini



'O mio babbino caro' from Gianni Schicchi (Ekaterina Siurina, The Royal Opera)

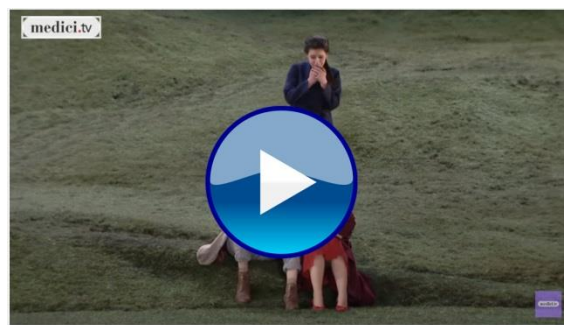


O Soave Fanciulla - Alvarez, Gallardo-Domás

Mozart



Diana Damrau - Queen of the Night (The Magic Flute)



Mozart, Don Giovanni: "Madamina, il catalogo è questo" (Josef Wagner)

Verdi



La traviata - Brindisi aka The Drinking Song (The Royal Opera)



Juan Diego Flórez - Rigoletto: III : «La donna è mobile» - Verdi

Janáček



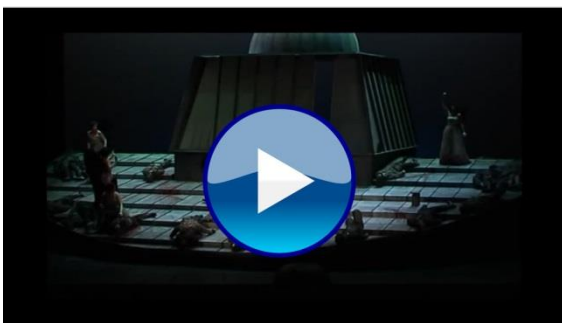
Varvara "Co se ti zdává?" Katya Kabanova Janáček LIVE

Rossini



Danielle de Niese - Il Barbiere Di Siviglia "Contro un cor che accende amore"

Wagner



Wagner : The Ride of the Valkyries - Copenhagen Ring



Karajan & Norman - Liebestod (Tristan und Isolde) - Wagner

Bizet



Carmen: "Lamour est un oiseau rebelle" (Elina Garanca)

Donizetti



L'elisir d'amore - "Una furtiva lagrima" (Vittorio Grigolo, The Royal Opera)

Richard Strauss



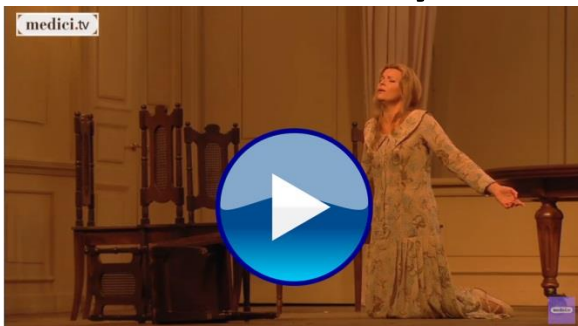
Sophie Koch and Mojca Erdmann - Richard Strauss, Rosenkavalier, duet Octavian & Sophie

Benjamin Britten



Britten: "Embroidery in childhood" from Peter Grimes (Lauren Michelle)

Tchaikovsky



Eugene Onegin - Tchaikovsky - The Letter Scene (Tatiana Monogarova)

Purcell



Purcell - Dido and Aeneas - When I Am Laid in Earth

Dvořák



Renée Fleming Sings "Song to the Moon" from Rusalka

Delibes



HD Elina Garanca, Anna Netrebko - Flower Duet, Lakme.