

## **Tuesday Morning Music Class - Fall 2023 Syllabus**

Seven Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Darlington Hall, 2 E 90<sup>th</sup> Street, NYC

All sessions will be streamed on Zoom

Instructor: Will Crutchfield

### **Sept 26 Dead Man Walking**

The Met opener tags multiple topics: New opera, American opera, operas based on movies, and our leading house's grand experiment.

### **Oct 17 Un ballo in maschera**

This is peak Verdi -- innovation and consolidated skill in perfect balance -- but it also has its quirky features. Surprising French influences made their way in, and the great tragedian was suddenly starting to appreciate dark comedy.

### **Oct 31 Malcolm X in history and opera**

One of the most surprising trends in modern opera is the treatment of historical figures close enough for some audience members to recall them -- and to have opinions pro or con.

### **Nov 14 Florencia en las Amazonas**

The Spanish-speaking world has always loved opera, but opera *in* Spanish has barely any history at all. In the Americas, it may be the path of the future.

### **Nov 21 Tannhäuser**

Wagner was such a revolutionary, and *Tannhäuser* is so conservative and conventional, that it almost doesn't seem to belong to him. But its beauties have held it a spot in the core repertory.

### **Nov 28 Callas at 100: What does she mean to us now?**

Style icon, gossip-column celebrity, plaything of a playboy, triumphant diva and tragic recluse, and oh yes, first-rate musician: Maria Callas was a little of everything. We're still disentangling the confused threads of her biography, and meanwhile she is still the most influential singer nearly a half century after her death.

### **Dec 12 Carmen**

The Met's New Year celebration is a new production of an evergreen, whose tunes are so singable that we might sometimes forget to notice its astonishing musical sophistication. But it's what lies behind the tunes that makes them magic.

Tuition: \$500. To register, bring a check to the class, or mail to:

Will Crutchfield, 820 West End Ave. #9F, New York, NY 10025

or send tuition via Zelle, PayPal or Venmo to: WillCrutchfieldAssistant@gmail.com