

Music

New!

THE ABCs OF OPERA:

AIDA, BOHEME, AND CARMEN

FEE: \$70

Aida, *La Boheme*, and *Carmen*, three of the world's most beloved operas, represent a powerful fusion of art, music, and human conflict. Join Emeritus favorite **Robert Yaffe** to examine the universal themes and popularity of these works, from Verdi's nationalism and Bizet's controversies over race and gender, to Puccini's study of jealousy and poverty. Even if you are familiar with these masterpieces, this course promises a fresh, in-depth appraisal.

MUS X05-61, OC/SK, 5 Mon., 11/2-11/30, 10-11:30 am

CRN 61169

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO

SEASON PREVIEW 2009-2010

FEE: \$100

Opera instructor and lecturer **Robert Yaffe** returns for the fourth year to preview operas being presented during the Lyric Opera's upcoming 2009-2010 season. Video and audio excerpts accompany each lecture, and your opera experience will further be enhanced by musical and dramatic analysis, as well as biographical information about the composers. Even if you do not attend a Lyric Opera performance, these sessions provide valuable insight into eight masterpieces of the operatic repertoire. **Classes run Friday, September 25 to Friday, November 13, 1-3 pm, at the Skokie campus.**

Friday, September 25

***Tosca*, by Giacomo Puccini**

Called "that shabby little shocker," *Tosca* offers some of Puccini's most famous music, set to the story of the prima donna Tosca, her lover, Cavaradossi, and one of opera's most evil characters, the Baron Scarpia. This opera features one of the most dramatic murder scenes ever composed for the stage.

Friday, October 2

***Faust*, by Charles Gounod**

Check in with the aging philosopher Faust, who would give anything to be young again – even his immortal soul. Faust gets it all, including a trip to hell. Enjoy a litany of opera's greatest hits starting with the famous waltz, "Jewel Song."

Friday, October 9

***Ernani*, by Giuseppe Verdi**

One of Verdi's earliest masterpieces combines very famous tunes with a passionate historical drama. The opera ends with the death of a bridegroom on his wedding night!

Friday, October 16

***Katya Kabanova*, by Leos Janacek**

A woman feels trapped in marriage; her husband is weak, her mother-in-law domineering. She meets a man who offers her sympathy and love, and the plot is in motion. This rarely-produced opera is very moving and emotional.

Friday, October 23

***The Merry Widow*, by Franz Lehár**

Unforgettable melodies delight in this popular operetta about a rich widow, Hanna Glawar, and her suitor, the handsome Count Danilo. This work features the "Merry Widow Waltz," one of the most recognizable and beloved melodies ever composed.

Friday, October 30

***The Elixir of Love*, by Gaetano Donizetti**

A comedy about a clumsy young man who believes a love potion can make him irresistible to the fairer sex. Dr. Dulcamara says he has the magic, but will it work for Nemorino as he tries to woo the lovely Adina? A highlight is the beautiful tenor aria, "Una furtiva lagrima."

Friday, November 6

***The Damnation of Faust*, by Hector Berlioz**

A second look at this legend. Mephistopheles entices Faust. Faust dreams of Marguerite. She is ruined, then saved. Of course, Faust still descends into hell with the devil!

Friday, November 13

***The Marriage of Figaro*, by Wolfgang Mozart**

The story of two desperate lovers, many consider this the world's greatest opera. Powerful melodies abound as we encounter Figaro, the count's valet, and Susanna, the countess' maid.

MUS S64-61, OC/SK, 8 Fri., OC/SK, 9/25-11/13, 1-3 pm CRN 60862

New!

**200 YEARS OF GREATNESS: HAYDN,
FATHER OF THE SYMPHONY**

FEE: \$30

In 1809, one of the greatest composers who ever lived passed from the earth. But when he was alive, Joseph Haydn reveled in the excitement of composing for a variety of new musical formats, especially the symphony orchestra and piano and string quartet. Haydn was in the middle of it all, extending these formats to awe-inspiring heights. Join **Jim Kendros** to explore two Haydn symphonies, the passionate *Farewell* and the magnificent *Surprise*.

MUS B26-61, OC/SK, 2 Wed., 10/7-10/14, 10-11:30 am CRN 60863

New!

**200 YEARS OF GREATNESS: MENDELSSOHN,
GENIUS OF THE ROMANTIC ERA**

FEE: \$40

In 1809, the world welcomed a musical miracle who is often compared to Mozart. Consider the accomplishments of young Felix Mendelssohn: he composed a symphony for full orchestra (in C minor, Op. 11), a String Octet in E-flat major, and an *Overture* to Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, all before his 18th birthday! Join **Jim Kendros** to learn more about Mendelssohn's most beloved works, including the *Violin Concerto*, the *Italian Symphony*, and the magnificent tone poem, *The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave)*.

MUS B27-61, OC/SK, 3 Wed., 10/ 21-11/4, 10-11:30 am CRN 60864

New!

**200 YEARS OF GREATNESS:
"A LINCOLN PORTRAIT"**

FEE: \$20

In 1809, one of the greatest U.S. presidents was born. More than a century later, the great American composer, Aaron Copeland, celebrated his life in "A Lincoln Portrait." Written in 1942 to boost the nation's spirits during World War II, this towering work of majestic beauty not only tells the story of our 16th president, but also revels in the story and bravery of America itself. Join **Jim Kendros** to be inspired anew by this musical masterpiece!

MUS B28-61, OC/SK, 11/18, 1 Wed., 10-11:30 am CRN 60865

New!

**FROM RUSSIA TO BERLIN:
A CENTURY OF IRVING**

FEE: \$60

Come on along, come on along, as Emeritus favorite **Charles Troy** explores the 101-year life span of the ultimate immigrant, Irving Berlin. These four multimedia presentations introduce Berlin's fabulous songs and revisit memorable movie scenes. Part 1 – *Alexander's Ragtime Band* (1888-1925) – Berlin pulls himself out of poverty on New York's Lower East Side by teaching himself to write lyrics and play the piano. Part 2 – *Easter Parade* (1926-1933) – Berlin marries a society girl, loses his self-confidence (and a fortune in the stock market crash), then snaps out of it by writing two great Broadway shows. Part 3 – *God Bless America* (1934-1945) – Berlin conquers Hollywood, scoring three films for Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. He also writes the most popular American patriotic song of all time and, of course, *White Christmas*. Part 4 – *There's No Business Like Show Business* (1946-1989) – Berlin writes his greatest show, *Annie Get Your Gun*, and another hit for Ethel Merman, *Call Me Madam*, before shifting audience tastes send him into seclusion.

MUS B29-61, OC/SK, 4 Mon., 10/5-10/26, 10-11:30 am

CRN 61166