



THE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY
of Cincinnati
and
Hamilton County

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Press Release

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Public Library Program Honors Opera's 90th Anniversary

Cincinnati Opera celebrates its 90th anniversary in June and July 2010. To commemorate this milestone, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County will host an Italian language class for opera lovers on Saturday, May 8, at 1:00 p.m., in the in the Main Library's Popular Library Reading Lounge @ 8th and Vine (800 Vine Street).

Experience the grace and charm of the Italian language through the beauty of the aria with Cincinnati's Italian School Amici. Professor David Bezona, former German and European opera tenor, and currently a music and theatre-arts educator at Wilmington College of Cincinnati, will lead a one hour discussion and demonstration of the use of the Italian language from its inception and through the history of Italian opera. He will be joined by Metropolitan Opera soprano, Blythe Walker. For more information please see www.schoolamici.com, where students have been learning Italian from Italians for over 20 years in Cincinnati.



Metropolitan Opera soprano Blythe Walker lives in Norwood.

The Popular Library recently reorganized its collection of more than 600 opera titles on CD. Your favorite opera is now easier than ever to find and borrow. Visit the Popular Library on the First Floor of the Main Library today!

Cincinnati Opera Archives at the Public Library



Photo of legendary soprano Renata Scotti in *Adriana Lecouvreur*.

The Public Library is proud to be the new custodian of the Cincinnati Opera Archives, a responsibility the system inherited in 2006 from the Cincinnati Historical Society. The archives, which extend from 1883 to 1994, include a wealth of material chronicling the history of the Opera. It contains photographs of the many legendary stars and conductors who performed with the company along with historic programs, posters, scores, librettos, scrapbooks, newspaper articles and clippings, and other documents.

To see treasures from the archives, ask at the Genealogy & Local History Department service desk for The Cincinnati Opera, 1883-1994, a highly detailed catalog of the contents. In addition, the Department maintains a card index to the Opera's productions as well as bound programs from past productions.

For more information, visit <http://www.cincinnatiLibrary.org/news/2010/operaprogram.html>.