



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

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San Diego Public Library Presents Marathon Screening of Verdi Operas *Rarely Seen Productions of Rigoletto and La Traviata Shot on Location in Mantua and Paris*

SAN DIEGO – In collaboration with the San Diego Italian Film Festival (SDIFF), the City of San Diego Public Library will offer a VERDIthon—a marathon screening of rarely seen Verdi operas on film—on Thursday, October 10. The FREE program will be held from 10:00 am to 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the new Central Library, 330 Park Blvd. at 11th Ave., in downtown San Diego (East Village near Petco Park).

This VERDIthon honors the 200th birthday of the beloved Italian composer and patriot Giuseppe Verdi. San Diego Public Library joins with SDIFF and RAI Italia to present RAI's spectacular cinematic productions of two of Verdi's favorite operas: *Rigoletto* and *La Traviata*. Produced as feature length movies instead of staged plays, these showcase some of Italy's and the world's greatest talents--Zubin Mehta, Placido Domingo, Marco Bellocchio, and Vittorio Storaro. True to their librettos, each opera is shot on location in historic Mantua and Paris. The two films will follow each other during the day, ending with a screening of a live 1982 production of Verdi's dramatically infused *Requiem*, featuring soloists Margaret Price, Jessye Norman, José Carreras, and Ruggero Raimondi, with Edinburgh Festival Chorus and London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Claudio Abbado. A surprise guest will come to help open up all the intimate details of the music, story, and production.

The schedule of the screenings will be:

10:00 am *Rigoletto in Mantua* (2 hrs., 9 min.)

12:45 pm *La Traviata a Paris* (1 hr., 55 min.)

3:15 pm *Requiem* (96 min.)

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“RIGOLETTO IN MANTUA”. (2010) A film broadcast live and worldwide, conceived and produced by Andrea Andermann who, together with the RAI, transmitted the atmosphere, the evocative power and awesomeness of Giuseppe Verdi’s opera from the exact places and hours of the libretto, respecting the rhythm of the story as well as authentic work of the authors. A film by Marco Bellocchio with Placido Domingo who for the first time took the part of Rigoletto. Cinematography by the Oscar Award Vittorio Storaro. With the participation of RAI’s National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Maestro Zubin Mehta. Italian with English subtitles. 2 hours, 9 minutes.

“LA TRAVIATA A PARIS”. (2000) This is the television filming and live broadcast of Giuseppe Verdi’s opera telling of the love between Violetta Valery and Alfredo Germont, reconstructed and performed according to the hours and changes of setting of the original story. The sets of the opera are numerous and far apart, so that the production required the use of an extremely sophisticated technological system. The four sites where the action takes place are: the Hotel de Boisgelin (the current seat of the Italian Embassy) (Act I); the Hameau de la Reine (the village built under Queen Marie Antoninette) (Act II); the Petit Palais (Act III); the Ile Saint Louis (Act IV). The film won the EMMY AWARD and the PRIX ITALIA 2001. Italian with English subtitles. 1 hour, 55 minutes.

Affordable parking is available at the library and at thousands of public spaces within walking distance of the library. For information about the San Diego Italian Film Festival and its Festival 2013, visit <http://www.sandiegoitalianfilmfestival.com/>

For more information, call Central Library’s Art, Music and Recreation Section at 619-236-5800, or visit the Library on the City’s website at www.sandiegolibrary.org. Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library’s Central Library and 35 branch libraries, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s online catalog.

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