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Preview

The Puccini Celebrations 2008

2008 will be Puccini's year. It will be the 150th anniversary of the artist's birth, and the Ministry of National Heritage and Culture wanted to seize this opportunity to promote the artistic and cultural attractions of our land. This is why it founded the *Comitato Nazionale Celebrazioni Pucciniane*, a cultural body that brings together over 50 representatives from public bodies, private ventures, theatre boards and scientific and cultural institutions of Puccini's land.

Puccini was born in Lucca from a family in which music had run for generations, he completed his studies in Milan, lived most of his life and composed many of his works in Torre del Lago, took his works to the greatest Italian theatres, from Rome to Turin, to Naples, etc, exported his music abroad, from London to New York, passing through Paris and Buenos Aires. So his land cannot be just a little corner of the world. And it is just because of this that the Comitato Nazionale is developing events and putting together a schedule of cultural and music happenings for his 150th anniversary, which will start from the region of Lucca – the artist's birthplace and the focus of the celebrations – and will touch a whole country, in the artist's name.

A summary preview of the 2008 events is given below; do join Puccini's journey, which amidst exhibitions, operas, conferences, concerts, books will turn Italy into a big stage, to pay tribute to the *Maestro* in the year of his 150th birthday

Bruno Ermolli

President

Comitato Nazionale Celebrazioni Pucciniane

Giacomo Puccini's land invites you to join the *Celebrations for the 150th anniversary of the artist's birth*. Concerts, events, exhibitions, conferences, tours, to discover the places in which the musician lived and composed his works: from the elegant historical centre of Lucca, where Puccini's native home is located, to the little mountain village of Celle di Pescaglia, from Massarosa and Torre del Lago – here, in the natural reserve of Massaciuccoli, he took rest from his piano and he entertained himself with hunting – as far as Viareggio, the favourite place for his other passions, cars and yachts. A range of suggestions and pleasant tours. To get an insight of the greatest Italian composer of the twentieth century, and all the emotion and feelings of music.

Stefano Baccelli

President of the Provincia of Lucca

The National Committee for the Puccini Celebrations
is grateful for the unfailing support

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We would also like to thank

Fondazione Festival Pucciniano
Teatro del Giglio di Lucca
Teatro alla Scala di Milano
Teatro dell'Opera di Roma
Filarmonica della Scala
Coro Filarmonico della Scala
Istituto Musicale Luigi Boccherini di Lucca

Biblioteca Statale di Lucca
Centro Studi Giacomo Puccini
Fondazione Simonetta Puccini
Fondazione Giacomo Puccini
Istituto di Studi Pucciniani
Associazione Amici delle Case di Giacomo Puccini
Maestro Riccardo Chailly

The information contained herein is updated as of May 20th 2007

Preview 2008

Giacomo Puccini 1858-2008
When I feel sweetly homesick

exhibition

April – September 2008

Discovering the precious and long-lasting relation between the *Maestro* and the place where he was born and lived, through an exhibition that covers all of Puccini's landmarks: from Lucca, where he was born, to Pescaglia, from Torre del Lago, his adoptive city where he lived and the place of worship that guards the *Maestro*'s spoils, to Viareggio

- Lucca. Puccini and Lucca
- Celle dei Puccini (Pescaglia). The Puccini family, the history of a dynasty.
- Viareggio. Puccini, the music, art and artists of his land.
- Torre del Lago – Villa, Museum and Mausoleum. Giacomo Puccini and Torre del Lago.

By: Associazione Amici delle Case di Giacomo Puccini, Associazione Lucchesi nel Mondo, Casa Ricordi, Centro Studi Giacomo Puccini, Comune di Lucca, Comune di Pescaglia, Comune di Viareggio, Fondazione Festival Pucciniano, Fondazione Giacomo Puccini, Fondazione Simonetta Puccini, Istituto di Studi Pucciniani, Provincia di Lucca, Teatro del Giglio di Lucca.

Giacomo Puccini's twentieth century

conference

International conference on Giacomo Puccini
Lucca, Torre del Lago – Milan – New York

Three-session conference, an opportunity to review the current state of the studies and the prospects of future research.

By: Centro Studi Giacomo Puccini, Fondazione Festival Pucciniano, Fondazione Giacomo Puccini.

At the theatre with Giacomo Puccini

at the theatre

The Italian programme of Puccini's Operas performed in the year of the celebrations.

Fondazione Lirico Sinfonica Petruzzelli e Teatri di Bari – Bari

Madama Butterfly

conductor: Giampaolo Bisanti

producer: Daniele Abbado

main singers: Svetla Vassileva, Joseph Calleja, Gabriele Viviani

13th, 15th and 17th February 2008

Teatro Piccinni di Bari

info: www.fondazioneiliricabari.it

Fondazione Teatro Carlo Felice – Genova

Manon Lescaut

conductor: Riccardo Frizza

producer: Graham Vick

Stage settings Glyndebourne Festival

Main singers: Micaela Carosi, Giuseppe Gipali, Gabriele Viviani

10th, 12th, 13th, 15th, 17th, 18th and 20th January 2008

La Bohème

conductor: Daniel Oren

main singers: Cristina Gallardo Domâs, Ainhoa Arteta, Giorgio Caoduro, Vito Priante

22nd, 23rd, 25th, 26th, 27th, 29th, 30th November and 2nd December 2008

info: www.carlofelice.it

Teatro del Giglio – Lucca

Il Trittico – Aspettando il 150°

November 2007

La Bohème

January 2008

La Rondine

Stage settings and costumes by Nall

A Festival Puccini production

October 2008

La fanciulla del West

November 2008

info: www.teatrodelgiglio.it

Arena Sferisterio – Macerata

Manon Lescaut

July – August 2008

Sferisterio Opera Festival 2008

info: www.sferisterio.it

Teatro alla Scala – Milano

Il Trittico

Conductor: Riccardo Chailly

March – April 2008

La Bohème

conductor: Gustavo Dudamel

Stage settings: Franco Zeffirelli

July 2008

info: www.teatroallascala.org

Fondazione Teatro di San Carlo – Napoli

Turandot

Conductor: Pinchas Steinberg

Producer and stage settings: David Hockney

costumes: Jan Falconer

20th, 21st, 22nd, 24th, 25th, 26th and 28th June 2008

info: www.teatrosancarlo.it

Teatro dell'Opera – Roma

Tosca

14th January 2008: inauguration gala

16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 22nd and 23rd January 2008: performance replicas

22nd, 23rd, 24th, 26th and 27th April 2008: filming

La fanciulla del West

From April 8th to April 15th 2008 (7 performances)

Madama Butterfly

From 27th July to August 3rd 2008 (5 performances)

Terme di Caracalla

info: www.operaroma.it

Preview 2008

Fondazione Festival Pucciniano – Torre del Lago Puccini

54° Festival Puccini

Turandot

New stage settings

Producer: Maurizio Scaparro

Settings: Ezio Frigerio –costumes: Franca Squarciapino

11th, 13th, 19th, 25th July and August 3rd, 10th 2008

Tosca

Producer: Mario Corradi

Settings and costumes: Igor Mitoraj

12th, 18th, 27th July and 8th August 2008

Madama Butterfly

Producer: Stefano Vizioli

Settings and costumes: Ugo Nespolo

20th, 26th July and 2nd, 17th, 23rd August 2008

Edgar

New stage settings

9th, 16th August 2008

info: www.puccinifestival.it

Fondazione Teatro Lirico «G. Verdi» – Trieste

La Rondine

4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 10th and 11th June 2008

info: www.teatroverdi-trieste.com

Fondazione Teatro La Fenice – VENEZIA

La Rondine

January – February 2008

Gianni Schicchi

October 2008

info: www.teatrolafenice.it

The list of the performances in the Theatres that to date have adhered to the promotional project called «Una finestra sul 2008». The calendar is undergoing continuous updating and enhancement.

In concert with Giacomo Puccini

Giacomo Puccini: a rich programme of concerts in the year of the 150th anniversary of his birth

Giacomo Puccini, IV act. Modernist aspirations

Double run of the concert *Giacomo Puccini, IV act*, which closes the tetralogy of symphonic operas edited by the National Committee. The 2008 programme of concerts will cover the last years of the *Maestro's* career, from *Il Trittico* (1918) to *Turandot* (1926), leading us through the Rome of *Tosca* and the banks of the lake of Torre del Lago Puccini where the *Maestro* used to live and still rests.

Philharmonic orchestra of La Scala

Philharmonic Choir of La Scala

Conductor: Riccardo Chailly

Torre del Lago Puccini – Unveiling of the new Open-air Theatre

Rome – Auditorium

In addition, for 2008 the land of Giacomo Puccini – the region of Lucca and Tuscany – has developed, in conjunction with the traditional theatres and the institutions, a tight schedule of concerts,

at the theatre

in concert

in concert

with performances in the most important cultural places of Tuscany (January-December 2008). Some of the main concerts that will be played by Teatro del Giglio of Lucca and Fondazione Festival Pucciniano of Torre del Lago, theatres that have a special relation with the Lucca-born composer in terms of history and traditions, are listed below.

Lucca in concert

Teatro del Giglio

Concerto di gala – The Gala Concert

Awaiting the 150th anniversary

22nd December 2007

Grand Gala of Opera

Giacomo Puccini Frame-by-Frame

September 2008

Co-production with the Puccini Festival Foundation

The Concert Event

Happy Birthday Maestro Puccini! – Puccini Day

22nd December 2008

Co-production with the Puccini festival Foundation

Roma in concert

Teatro dell'Opera

Concerto Pucciniano (Puccini's Concert)

22nd, 23rd November 2008

Torre del Lago in concert

The Puccini Festival Foundation

Concert

Orchestra Accademia Santa Cecilia

24th July 2008

Concert

The Cleveland Orchestra

Conductor: Franz Welser-Möst

21st August 2008

The Opera Gala

Co-production with the Arena of Verona Foundation

Conductor: Alberto Veronesi

Anna Netrebko, Rolando Villazon

5th September 2008

the tetralogy

Giacomo Puccini on CD

Casa Ricordi has produced the box of CDs *Giacomo Puccini, la Tetralogia*, the CD collection of the schedule of concerts, edited by the National Committee for Puccini's celebrations and played by the excellent Philharmonic Orchestra of La Scala, the Philharmonic Choir of La Scala, conducted by Riccardo Chailly.

One box, a special collector's item, will contain the four concerts that have punctuated the work of the Committee, from its establishment to the year of the grand celebrations, treating us to the most suggestive pages in Giacomo Puccini's career, from his adolescence to the unfinished *Turandot*.

Giacomo Puccini, act I. Lucca, Basilica di San Frediano, 2005

Giacomo Puccini, act II. Torre del Lago Puccini, Grand Open-air Theatre, 2006

Giacomo Puccini, act III. Milano, Teatro alla Scala, 2007

Giacomo Puccini, act IV. Torre del Lago Puccini – Roma, 2008

Philharmonic Orchestra of La Scala – Philharmonic Choir of La Scala – Conductor: Riccardo Chailly

Preview 2008

Stamp and mintage

The National Committee has promoted the production of a special issue of stamps and the minting of a commemorative medal to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Giacomo Puccini's birth. With the aid of Poste Italiane Spa, Istituto Poligrafico and Zecca dello Stato Spa, Giacomo Puccini will be the icon of opera and Italian culture in the world just in the year of his 150th birthday.

stamp and
mintage

Commemorative publications

In the year of his celebrations, the land of the *Maestro* gives pride of place to publications about Puccini, with a rich calendar of conferences and presentations of books as a tribute to the *Maestro*. They include the first volume of the collection «Epistolario» (2008) as well as the publication of the *Livrets de mises en scène*, which are part of a broader National Publishing plan, edited by Centro Studi Giacomo Puccini.

publishing

Romano Cagnoni, an authoritative professional of European photographic art, one of the seven most famous photographers in the world as well as a widely acclaimed reporter of human feelings from South-America to the Middle East and from the expressions of art to the miners' work, is the author of the photographic book developed by the National Committee for Puccini's Celebrations, called *Puccini*. A book about the private life of the *Maestro*, that will lead us to the discovery of his objects of art, his feelings and emotions, rediscovered through original autographic materials, visiting the hidden corners of his homes, along the trails of culture and in the places that saw him in the limelight in his life and in his career. A publishing project that will celebrate Puccini's Italy, which aims at spurring a virtual journey, made up of images and visual sensations, in the places of cultural tourism that still preserve the essence of his experiences.

Publishing project edited by the National Committee for Puccini's Celebrations with the assistance of Progetto Fondo Pucciniano of the Ministry of National Heritage and Culture and in cooperation with the State Library of Lucca. Published by Maria Pacini Fazzi editrice. 2008, Italian - English.

Video and TV productions

video and tv

TV fiction

Written and produced by RAI FICTION in cooperation with the American HBO, it will enter the Italians' homes in 2008. *Puccini* is the name of the all-Italian serial that will celebrate the *Maestro*.

Film on Puccini's places

The film about Puccini's lands takes inspiration from an idea of Ugo Nespolo, who is also the director of the film. Ugo Nespolo, among his other projects, has produced an artistic film of international relevance, produced by Cinecittà, with Giancarlo Giannini as the special endorser, named *Progetto Italiana*, art as the expression of our Country. 2008 will be the year of Puccini's art through the places his life and his works.

High-definition TV productions

The project *Tutto Puccini* exclusively produced and developed by Unitel and Fondazione Festival Pucciniano will start in 2008 and end in 2013. Puccini's works, which will be staged on the New Open-air Theatre in Torre del Lago Puccini, will be filmed and post-produced in HD technology with numerical sound recording on latest-generation technology. A video product with a real technological added value that will be not only a really unprecedented worldwide experience, but will also collect the best high-profile performances of the *Maestro*'s complete works.

Tutto Puccini, 2008, Edgar

Recognised members of the National Committee for Puccini's Celebrations

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