

LA TRAVIATA RESOURCES

Books/Plays

The Cambridge History of Nineteenth-Century Music

Author: Jim Samson. Notes: Provides basic reference information and history of nineteenth-century music. Illustrated. English. 772 pages. Cambridge University Press. 2001.

Camille: A Play in Five Acts

By: Alexandre Dumas Jr. Translator: Matilda Heron. English. 72 pages. Kessinger Publishing. 2009.

Camille: The Fate of a Coquette (play)

By: Alexandre Dumas. Translator: Henriette Metcalf. Notes: Broadway revival, which opened in 1935. The production starred Richard Waring and Eva Le Gallienne. Samuel French. 1959.

La Dame aux Camélias (novel)

By: Alexandre Dumas (Fils). Translator: David Coward. Notes: Dumas's subtle and moving portrait of a woman in love is based on his own love affair with a desirable courtesan in Paris. English. 256 pages. Oxford University Press. 2008.

La Dame aux Camélias (novel)

By: Alexandre Dumas. Notes: This is the touching story of the romance between Armand Duval, Dumas' alter ego, and the beautiful courtesan Marguerite Gaultier. Marguerite sacrifices her own happiness for Armand's sake, only to result in a tragic conclusion. Dumas, fils, has written a moving and engrossing book that reveals the effects of love on human nature. French Edition. 422 pages. Pocket. 2000.

La Traviata (full Score)

By: Giuseppe Verdi. Notes: This is the complete orchestral and vocal score of Verdi's sentimental favorite. Ideal companion for the student or opera fanatic who really wants to see what Verdi wrote for whom. English. 432 pages. Dover Publications. 1990.

Sarah Bernhardt: The Art of High Drama

Author: Carol Ockman. Contributor: The Jewish Museum, NY. Notes: Sarah Bernhardt's (Marguerite in the film *La dame aux camélias*) importance extended beyond the world of theater—she was an icon, a target of admiration and scorn, an artist, and a trendsetter. This book examines the many sides of Bernhardt, from her beginnings at the Comédie Française through her international stardom. Illustrated, the book features a collection of images relating to Bernhardt's life. English. 216 pages. Yale University Press. 2005.

Three Musketeers: a study of the Dumas Family

By: André Maurois. English. 508 pages. Cape. 1957.

Films/DVDs

Camille

Director: Ray C. Smallwood. Starring: Rudolph Valentino, Alla Nazimova. Notes: Silent Film. This is one of the numerous screen adaptations of *La Dame Aux Camélias* by Alexandre

Dumas, fils. The film moves the setting of the story to 1920s Paris, and includes many lavish Art Deco sets. English. 70 minutes. Nazimova Productions. 1921.

Camille

Director: George Cukor. Starring: Greta Garbo, Robert Taylor. Notes: One of Greta Garbo's touchstone films, this adaptation of the Alexandre Dumas novel finds the actress playing a dying courtesan who falls in love with a young nobleman and must sacrifice her happiness. French & English. 109 minutes. Warner Home Video. 2005.

La dame aux camélias

Director: Louis Mercanton. Starring: Sarah Bernhardt, Lou Tellegen. Notes: Sarah Bernhardt also starred in Paris, London, and several Broadway revivals of this production. Black and white. Silent. French. 1911.

La Traviata

Director: Franco Zeffirelli. Starring: Teresa Stratas, Plácido Domingo. Notes: Nominated for two Oscars, two BAFTA's, and one Golden Globe. *La Traviata* is one of cinema's greatest combinations of filmmaking and musical performance. The movie offers extravagant sets, magnificent costumes, and charming locations, and the enjoyable music is of high caliber. Italian (English subtitles). 109 minutes. Accent Films B.V. 1983.

La Traviata

Director: Pierre Cavassilas. Starring: Eteri Gvazava, José Cura. Notes: Won Primetime Emmy. Verdi's most famous opera played out in real-time, in real locations. This *Traviata* offers a daring production, set in some of the most prestigious buildings in Paris and Versailles. DVD requires a region specific or multi-region DVD player and compatible TV. Italian (English subtitles). 195 minutes. Andrea Andermann. 2000.

La Traviata (Ballet)

Starring: Moscow Classikal Ballet, Vera Timashova. 85 minutes. Videoland. 2007.

La Traviata (Covent Garden)

Director: Humphrey Burton. Starring: Angela Gheorghiu, Frank Lopardo. Notes: Angela Gheorghiu's affinity for Verdi's fragile, gentle-hearted courtesan is rooted in a fine balance of acting and singing skills. Special Edition with highlights. Italian (English subtitles). 134 minutes. Decca. 2005.

La Traviata (La Scala)

Director: Liliana Cavani. Starring: Angela Gheorghiu, Ramon Vargas. Notes: This production from Milan's La Scala, with world-class singers and Lorin Maazel on the podium belongs among the best of the many fine DVD versions available. Its prime draw is soprano Angela Gheorghiu, whose 1994 Covent Garden assumption of the role of Violetta catapulted her to stardom. Italian (English subtitles). 134 minutes. Arthaus Musik. 2008.

La Traviata (Los Angeles Opera)

Director: Marta Domingo. Starring: Renee Fleming, Rolando Villazon. Notes: This performance was the highlight of James Conlon's much-anticipated inaugural season as the music director of Los Angeles Opera. The lavish production was filmed in Hi-Definition Widescreen to capture all of the excitement and drama on stage. Italian (English subtitles). 141 minutes. Decca. 2007.

La Traviata (Salzburg Music Festival)

Director: Carlo Rizzi. Starring: Anna Netrebko, Rolando Villazon. Notes: The Salzburg Music Festival's *La Traviata*. Italian (English subtitles). 132 minutes. Deutsche Grammophon. 2006.

La Traviata (Wolf Trap Festival)

Director: Tito Capobianco. Starring: Beverly Sills, Henry Price. Notes: *In Performance at Wolf Trap* (Vienna, Virginia) presents Ms. Sills in one of her most celebrated portrayals. Just months earlier, Sills had performed the role at the Metropolitan Opera to great acclaim. Black and white. Italian (English subtitles). 135 minutes. Video Artists International. 2001.

Pretty Woman

Director: Garry Marshall. Starring: Julia Roberts, Richard Gere. Notes: Edward Lewis (Richard Gere) takes Vivian Ward (Julia Roberts) to the San Francisco Opera where Vivian is moved by a production of *La Traviata*. Roberts was nominated for a Best Actress Oscar. English. 119 minutes. Touchtone Pictures. 1990.

CDs

La Dame aux Camélias

Composed by: Ennio Morricone. Notes: Original Motion Picture Soundtrack. Reggae Retro. 1995 (Original release 1980).

La Traviata

Starring: Luciano Pavarotti, Joan Sutherland. Conductor: Richard Bonyngue. Orchestra: National Philharmonic. Notes: It's hard to resist such a starry cast, and Sutherland-Pavarotti fans will want this no matter what. Luciano has a fine voice, creating an Alfredo to remember with his distinctive lyric tenor endowing the arias and even the recitatives with a bright sound and excellent diction that lets you understand every word. Decca. 1991.

La Traviata

Starring: Maria Callas, Giuseppe di Stefano. Notes: This is a wonderful, live recording of the 1955 Visconti production at La Scala (Milan). EMI Classics. 1998.

La Traviata (Audio CD)

By: Giuseppe Verdi. Notes: Includes a history of the opera, a synopsis of the story, a complete libretto in its original language as well as in English, and dozens of photographs and drawings depicting scenes, singers, performances, and more. Also includes recordings of the entire opera as well as commentary from experts in the field who guide listeners through the music. English. 142 pages. Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers. 2005.

The Lady of the Camellias (Audio CD)

By: Alexandre Dumas. Narrated by: Laura Paton, Daniel Philpott. Notes: In this sound dramatization, the story of passion and conflict is as fresh and compelling as when it was first written. Abridged. English. Naxos of America. 2006.

Marguerite (musical)

Lyrics: Herbert Kretzmer. Music: Michael Legrand. Notes: Based on the romantic novel *La Dame aux Camélias* by Alexandre Dumas, fils, the musical updates the story to 1940s German-occupied Paris. It tells the tale of a 40-year-old ex-singer and her affair with a young musician who is mixed up with the French Resistance, whilst she is the mistress of a Nazi officer. *Marguerite* opened at the Theatre Royal Haymarket to ecstatic reviews on 20th May. Cast recording. Warner Music TV. 2008.

Verdi – La Traviata

Starring: Angela Gheorghiu, Frank Lopardo. Conductor: Georg Solti. Performed by: Royal Opera House orchestra and chorus. Notes: Recording of the performance at Covent Garden that was completely sold out and was considered to be a stunning triumph. Decca. 1995.

Violetta: Arias and Duets from Verdi's La Traviata

Starring: Anna Netrebko, Rolando Villazon. Conductor: Carlo Rizzi. Orchestra: Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra. Notes: Deutsche Grammophon has patched together a seamless recording from the best of all seven, live, Salzburg performances. Demonstrates the abilities of the new generation of opera singers. Deutsche Grammophon. 2006.

Websites

Los Angeles Opera: La Traviata

<http://www.laopera.com/media/video/traviata.01.aspx>

<http://www.laopera.com/production/0809/traviata/index.aspx>

Manitoba Opera

http://www.manitobaopera.mb.ca/learn/studyguides/La_Traviata_Study_Guide.pdf
(Study Guide)

The Metropolitan Opera

<http://archive.operainfo.org/broadcast/operaMain.cgi?id=5&language=1>

(International Radio Broadcast Information Center: La Traviata)

San Francisco Opera: La Traviata

<http://sfopera.com/o/275.asp>

Washington National Opera's La Traviata

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btkZOVyGcfA&feature=player_embedded

<http://www.dc-opera.org>

<http://www.weta.org/fm/features/conversations/Marta+Domingo+and+Elizabeth+Futral>

Sources: *imdb.com, about.com, amazon.com, wikipedia.com, dramabookshop.com*