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PITTSBURGH OPERA EDUCATION

2020–2021 Opera Season Recommended Listening and Reading List

A collaboration of Pittsburgh Opera and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Music Department, with special thanks to Rebekah Hill and Julie Hanify.

***Soldiers Songs* was originally commissioned by the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, which premiered the work in 2006. Because this relatively new chamber opera doesn't have a body of material published about it, our resource guide presents entirely online offerings. Click a link to learn more about Pittsburgh Opera's next exciting presentation!**

As we follow current COVID-19 protocols, we encourage you to call 412-622-3114 or visit the website, www.carnegielibrary.org for more information about borrowing materials. Items can be requested and delivered to your neighborhood library for in-person or curbside pick-up (check with your local library for this information).

The Music Department at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh offers an extensive collection of materials pertaining to opera, from composer biographies, studies of operas, and histories of opera, to opera libretti, opera scores, and performances on CD and DVD. The items listed below constitute a small selection to whet your appetite as you look forward to a live or livestreamed performance. Enjoy!

Soldier Songs by David T. Little, 1978–

CD & DVD

Visit Pittsburgh Opera's website <https://www.pittsburghopera.org/show/soldier-songs> to listen to excerpts from the 2013 Innova Recordings CD featuring David Adam Moore (baritone), Todd Reynolds (conductor & voice) and Newspeak (click on Audio Preview Excerpts).

Libretto

The libretto, written by David T. Little, has not been commercially published. A PDF of the liner notes from the Innova recording, which contains the libretto, is available at <https://www.innova.mu/albums/david-t-little/soldier-songs>. Click on "Booklet" in the Links menu to open the file.

For further reading

Alive and Composing: David T. Little

Philip Blackburn interviewed Little about his life and the Innova release of *Soldier Songs*.

Watch the 2013 interview here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvMY8R28RFQ&feature=youtu.be> or link from the Innova website: <https://www.innova.mu/albums/david-t-little/soldier-songs> .

<https://davidtlittle.com/>

The official website for David T. Little provides biographical information, a works list, a list of recordings, and information about projects and events.

<https://www.newsounds.org/story/261107-soldier-songs/>

John Schaefer, host of the program *New Sounds* on New York Public Radio, interviewed David T. Little in January 2013 about *Soldier Songs*, his multimedia one-man opera. They talk about the sound-world of the piece which reflects Little's interest in musical theatre and his experience as a heavy metal drummer. Excerpts from the opera are also part of the interview.

Explore more about opera online!

Operabase

<https://www.operabase.com/en>

This website allows you to search opera performance details of artists and international opera companies, including upcoming schedules. Operabase has documented operatic activity worldwide since 1996, with more than 500,000 performances on file. It records the work of artists in more than 900 theaters, and publishes season information to opera-goers in 23 languages.

OperaGlass

opera.stanford.edu/

A great resource for plot synopses of operas, libretti, discographies, and performance histories. Links to other opera websites are also listed.

YouTube

youtube.com

Though YouTube is not a specific site for opera research, it really does have everything and anything as far as video and sound clips. If you use the title of any opera in a search, you will find several archived performances from stage productions, concerts, and more.

Visit the Pittsburgh Opera website: www.pittsburghopera.org
Visit the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh website: www.carnegielibrary.org