

# SHERBORN LIFETIME LEARNING

## Verdi's Life and The Thrills of Four Early Verdi Operas

All classes take place on Tuesdays from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

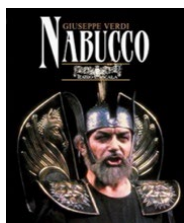
Already in the first years of his operatic career, Giuseppe Verdi could create the most ravishing melodies imaginable!

February 28, 2023



**Giuseppe Verdi** (1813-1901) was not only the leading Italian operatic composer of the 19<sup>th</sup> century but also a symbol of an entire country's hopes and dreams. His revolutionary politics helped bring about the unified Italy that we know today. He added a new spirit to opera, introducing a new thrust of power and passion and a profound attempt to realize the text through music, which was virtually unprecedented.

March 7, 2023



**Nabucco.** *Nabucco* and captivity of the Israelites in Babylon has grown into a powerful representation of oppression throughout history and resonated with people struggling for freedom across the globe. The chorus of the Hebrew slaves "Va pensiero" gave voice to a simmering Italian nationalism and became the unofficial anthem of the Italian independence movement. Cast: Renato Bruson, Ghena Dimitrova, Paata Burchuladze.

March 14, 2023



**Ernani.** Three men vie for the hand of the beautiful, young Elvira: Ernani, the outlawed nobleman reduced to banditry; Don Ruy Gomez de Silva, Elvira's guardian and unwelcome prospective husband; and Don Carlo, the King of Spain and future Holy Roman Emperor; Cast: Leona Mitchell, Luciano Pavarotti, Sherrill Milnes, Ruggero Raimondi.

March 21, 2023



**Attila** the Hun is attempting to conquer the world. After invading Aquileia, the Huns take a group of Virgins that survived the assault. One of the virgins is the beautiful Odabella. Odabella agrees to be loyal to Attila but secretly plans to murder him. Cast: Ildar Abdrazakov, Vladislav Sulimsky, Anna Markarova, Mariinsky Theater production.

March 28, 2023



Verdi's opera **Macbeth** dutifully mirrors Shakespeare's tragedy. The powerful drama chronicles the rise and fall of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth and their ultimate destruction that resulted from their blind ambition to seize and maintain power in 11<sup>th</sup> century Scotland. Cast: Simon Keenlyside, Liudmyla Monastyrska, Raymond Aceto, conductor: Antonio Pappano.

**This course is offered either via Zoom or in-person!**

Consult the [sherborncoa.org](http://sherborncoa.org) website to register for Lifetime Learning Courses  
Questions contact the COA at 508-651-7858 or email [coaprograms@sherbornma.org](mailto:coaprograms@sherbornma.org)