

Cinderella

ROSSINI

September 30, October 5, 7, 9, 2010
at 8 pm
Matinée October 2 at 3 pm
The Royal Theatre, Victoria, BC



Pacific Opera Victoria
September 2010

Activity Guide

Dear Educator,

Pacific Opera Victoria is proud to present *Cinderella (La Cenerentola)*. We are confident your students will enjoy opera's take on this popular tale. This guide was prepared to help your students get even more out of their opera experience.

Check out our website at www.pov.bc.ca/cinderella.html for inside information about *La Cenerentola*. Please suggest that your students take advantage of our website. The more your students know about the production, the more they will enjoy it!

A special welcome to our **Club Opera** members! I know this will be a rich experience for you and your students.

See you at the opera!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Adamthwaite".

Jackie Adamthwaite
Manager of Artistic Programs

Review the Opera!



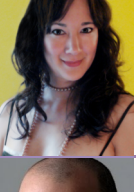

La Cenerentola- My Thoughts

Pacific Opera Victoria
September 28, 2010



Conducted by Giuseppe
Pietrarola

Reviewed by: _____

The Artists		Description of Character	Description of Voice
Julie Boulianne Cinderella			
Brian Stucki Don Ramiro			
Tyler Duncan Dandini			
Terry Hodges Don Magnifico			
Marianne Lambert Clorinda			
Marion Newman Tisbe			
Chad Louwerse Alidoro			

Give your Own STAR Rating!

The Scenes	Drama Star Rating	Music Star Rating	Design Star Rating
Opening Scene My Thoughts:	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5
Act 1 Finale: The Ball My Thoughts:	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5
Act II Opening Scene: My Thoughts:	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5
Act II Finale: My Thoughts:	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5	1-2-3-4-5

Re-draw the opening scene set design below!



My compliment to the director, Tom Diamond, would be.....

My favourite part of *La Cenerentola* was....

What I liked best about going to the Opera was...

Say who?

Cenerentola, Tisbe, Dandini... Good luck with these names! They can certainly be intimidating to English speakers, but they don't have to be!

Below is a pronunciation guide! Read the broken down names below as an English speaker and be amazed at how you have suddenly been transformed into a native Italian! To sound even more authentic, make sure you put emphasis on the capital letters found in each name.

Cenerentola: **ch**eh-neh-**REN**-toe-**la**

Dandini: **dan**-**DEE**-ni

Clorinda: **Clo**-**RIN**-da

Tisbe: **TIZ**-beh

Prince Ramiro: **ra**-**MI**-roh

Alidoro: **ah**-lee-**DOOR**-oh

Don Magnifico: **don mahg**-**NEE**-fi-co

Try writing these common Italian words into everyday English as was done above! Not sure if you were successful? Ask a partner to read it out for you! The first one is done for you.

Pizza: PEE-tsay

Latte: _____

Espresso: _____

Panini: _____

Gelato: _____

Pepperoni: _____

Spaghetti: _____

Cello: _____

Diva: _____

Finale: _____

Gondola: _____

Mafia: _____

Fiasco: _____

345 (so far)!

Did you know there are at least 345 versions of Cinderella? In this activity you are going to compare and contrast Rossini's opera with other Cinderella stories!

1. Go to the following website and you'll see 345 different versions of the Cinderella story. Click on a few of the different versions and read them.

<http://www.surlalunefairytales.com/cinderella/marianroalfecox/masterlist.html>

2. After reading at least five of the different versions, choose one of your favorites.
3. Answer the following questions about the story you selected:

a) What is the country of origin?

b) What year was it created? _____

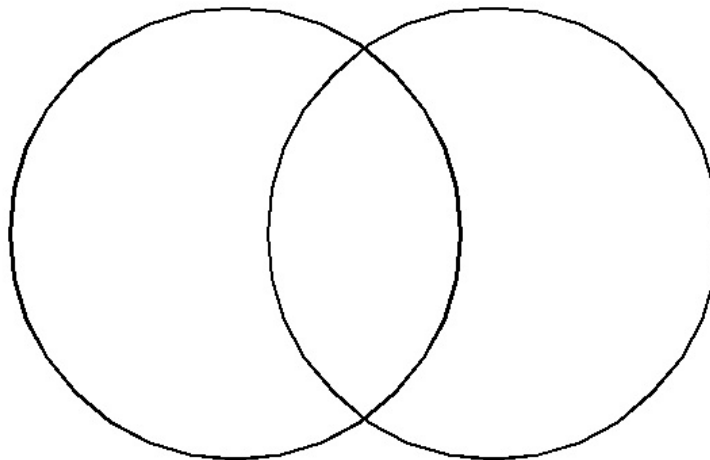
c) What is the name of your Cinderella story?

d) Describe something that surprised you in this Cinderella story:

4. Re-draw the Venn Diagram below to document the unique and different aspects of each Cinderella story. In the middle circle, note the similarities between the two. A detailed synopsis of *La Cenerentola*, the operatic version by Gioachino Rossini and Jacopo Ferretti, can be found here on Pacific Opera Victoria's website:

<http://www.pov.bc.ca/cinderella-story.html>

Your version Similarities La Cenerentola



5. List 5 differences between both the above stories and the Disney version on the back of your Venn Diagram. Then list five similarities.

Costume Designer!

Look at the following costume sketches that our designer Judith Bowden created.

Judith Bowden has designed for numerous theatres across Canada in the past fourteen years. Her work has been seen at the Shaw Festival over the past six seasons as well as at CanStage, the National Arts Centre, the Globe Theatre, the Grand Theatre, Prairie Theatre Exchange, Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People, Souleppper, Tarragon, Manitoba Theatre Centre and Great Canadian Theatre Company. She was resident costume designer at Alberta Theatre Projects from 1996 to 1999. While living in Calgary she also designed for Theatre Calgary, Quest Theatre, Decidedly Jazz Dance Co., Red Deer College, the Citadel Theatre and the Neptune.



Designers look for inspiration within the text and music of the opera and creatively design costumes that match the vision of the show with their interpretations. They often will look at magazines and books for pictures to stimulate ideas.

Below are some samples of the costumes you will see on stage!

Performance Activity: Study the following costumes and note which character is wearing what at the dress rehearsal! The next day, write down which character matches the costumes.



Now it's time to design your own costume! You can design a costume for a character you are studying, a character from *La Cenerentola* or someone from your own writings!

Things to consider while designing: colours, character personality, texture of material, style, etc. It helps to look at pictures in books and magazines to help!

THINK About iT!

Recall: Recollect facts, figures and concepts of *La Cenerentola*.

Split your students into six groups. Give each group a large piece of paper and a marker. Assign each group to write in big, bold letters, one of the following titles: **Characters/Voice, Setting/Time Period, Set and Costume Design, Opera Atmosphere, Costumes** and **Plot**. Have the students recall every detail that they can brainstorm for two minutes on their given topic. After two minutes, the students switch clockwise to the next sheet of paper. They must be careful to only add to each list. Hang the sheets up and use them to spring board a discussion about their opera experience. Encourage the students to remember facts.

The Magical World of Disney: One key difference between the Disney and Rossini versions is in the use of magic. Rossini does not use magic in his opera version. Alidoro is not a “fairy God mother” and Cenerentola’s dress will not turn to rags at the stroke of midnight; the list goes on. What implication does this have for the operatic Cinderella story? Why do you think Rossini did not use any magic in his version?

Why? Brainstorm as to why Rossini and Jacopo Ferretti chose to change certain elements of the Cinderella story? Discuss possible reasons for these elements:

- 1) A pair of bracelets instead of a glass slipper
- 2) The Prince comes directly to Cenerentola’s home
- 3) The character of Dandini
- 4) A stepfather instead of a stepmother.

Opera Buffa: Why is this opera considered a comedy? What elements from the libretto (the text of the opera) are comedic? What elements did our director, Tom Diamond, use to make the show full of humour? Did you notice any comedic themes?

A Cinderella Story: What is so intriguing about the Cinderella story? What elements make the story suitable for opera and storytelling? Create your own version of the Cinderella story. Create unique elements and changes while keeping other elements that are clearly deemed as ‘Cinderella’. Create plot points that could be developed into your story. Share with a partner.

Journal: Discuss the theme of reversal in *La Cenerentola*.

La Cenerentola Word Find

* Listed below are some of the differences that make *La Cenerentola* unique when compared to other versions of *Cinderella*! See if you can find all the differences in the word search below.

R E H T A F P E T S W O P N E
O S T O R M V T W D H G R O T
R P D C B D E K A A S O O Z E
O A O C J L W R X N R L S B V
D B N M E N E V A D I K S Y O
I K X C X P X S V I A I I K L
L F A C O C M C I N T L N I Q
A R L Q L D Y J A I W N I Z R
B S K T C O E A O R I M A R X
X D C E N E R E N T O L A Y C
T H C J K G D I D Y V L U U N
H L I V N T P Q N Z G T M Y R
E K P S C M N T G D K Y F U C
Z B E G G A R X E R A M M J K
X I T T E R R E F Z Z R B C T

ALIDORO
BEGGAR
BRACELET
CENERENTOLA
CLORINDA
DANDINI
FERRETTI
OPERA
RAMIRO
ROSSINI
STEPFATHER
STORM
TISBE

Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Send your completed word find to:

Jackie Adamthwaite
Manager of Artistic Programs
1815 Blanshard Street, Suite 500, Victoria, BC, V8T 5A4 or by fax: 250-382-4944

Those that send in their Word Find will be entered into a draw to win an Autographed Poster!

Teacher's Comments

Your comments and suggestions are greatly appreciated. Please take a few minutes to fill out this questionnaire and return it to the address below. Thank you for your comments and suggestions.

Name: _____ School: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax: _____ Grade(s) you teach: _____

Email: _____ Subjects: _____

Have you attended other arts events with your students in the past year? Yes No

If yes, what were they? _____

Were you able to use the Teacher's Study Guide and Activity Guide in your classroom activities before attending the opera? Yes No

If not, please elaborate: _____

If so, which sections of the Study Guide and Activity Guide did you find most useful? _____

How appropriate was the information provided in the Guides? _____

What would you add/delete: _____

Did you spend classroom time discussing the performance after your students attended the opera?
Yes No

Do you have any comments about the performance itself? _____

Would you like to receive information on our future Student Dress Rehearsals? Yes No

How would you like to receive information? Fax Email Letters Other _____

Please return this form to:

Jackie Adamthwaite, Manager of Artistic Programs

1815 Blanshard Street, Suite 500, Victoria, BC, V8T 5A4 or by fax: 250-382-4944