

YOU ARE INVITED.

WHAT ARE WE PLANNING TO DO?

After the great success we had with the Bregenz event in 2010, the Oxford & Cambridge Society of Austria and the German Cambridge Society invite all alumni to join us for another reunion at the Bregenz Opera Festival. **Hotels and opera tickets need to be booked by you.** We will organise the social programme around the performances.

We plan to spend the weekend of August 7 to 9 in Bregenz and attend the “Turandot” performance on August 8. Aficionados may want to experience “The Tales of Hoffman” on August 6 and/or the Wagner/Brahms performance of the Vorarlberg Symphony Orchestra on August 9, too.

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FURTHER INFO

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BREGENZ FESTIVAL 2015

TURANDOT BY GIACOMO PUCCINI

Lyric drama in three acts and five scenes
Sung in Italian with German surtitles

Libretto by Giuseppe Adami and Renato Simoni
Based on the play by Carlo Gozzi

Saturday, 8 August 2015, 21:00 / 9:00pm
Seebühne Bregenz

Please be advised that only category 1 tickets can be used inside if it rains. All others will be refunded or replaced with tickets for a later date.

TURANDOT

BY GIACOMO PUCCINI

RECOMMENDED HOTELS

Please book early. Rooms are getting scarce & expensive quickly.

Hotel Mercure Bregenz City www.accorhotels.com
(just next to Seebühne) Platz der Wiener Symphoniker 2, A-6900 Bregenz
+43 5574 461000

Ibis Hotel Bregenz www.accorhotels.com
(3 minutes' walk to Seebühne) Sankt Anna Straße 11, A-6900 Bregenz
+43 5574 524500

Messmer Hotel am Kornmarkt www.hotel-messmer.at
Kornmarktstraße 16, A-6900 Bregenz
+43 5574 42356

Deuringschlöble www.deuring-schloessle.at
Ehregutaplatz 4, A-6900 Bregenz
+43 5574 47800

HOW TO GET THERE

Railway Bregenz Hauptbahnhof (150m off Seebühne)

Airports Zurich, Switzerland (120km/75mi)
Friedrichshafen, Germany (33km/21mi)
St. Gallen/Altenrhein, Switzerland (30km/19mi)

Car Get off the highway at exit "Bregenz" exit

THE OPERA

"Nessun dorma" – no one may sleep, because by daybreak the Chinese princess has to find out the name of the unknown prince. Calaf was the first suitor to solve her riddles, but what he wants is Turandot's love...

One of the most famous of all arias was composed by Giacomo Puccini for his last opera. The Chinese princess Turandot has commanded that no one is to sleep – *nessun dorma* – for the night because by daybreak she has to find out the name of a mysterious prince – or else return his love. So far she has kept men away by means of a brutal oath: any man that wants to conquer Turandot must first solve three riddles; and if he fails he is beheaded. Like so many men before him, the unknown prince is spellbound by her appearance. He's the first suitor to solve all three riddles. But he wants her heart, so he sets a riddle of his own. If she discovers his name by morning, he's ready to go to his death. Another woman, Liù, knows his name but movingly prefers to take her own life than reveal her secret – she loved the prince too much.

The ecstatic love that then inflames Turandot and Calaf was a problem the composer continued to wrestle with for years. He was unhappy with the text supplied by his librettists, and sketched out a number of possibilities. The opera was left incomplete on Puccini's death in 1924, and his colleague Franco Alfano composed an ending on the basis of the sketches. The Chinese setting, stirring choral scenes, and characters overpowered by their emotions are the distinguishing features of this work. The riddle scene develops into a musical contest between soprano and tenor. With a sure hand for dramatic effect Puccini makes his rapt lovers reach for the stars.