

Unlocking Opera: *Parsifal*

Saturday, February 3, 2024

510 Preston Street, Houston

Join Wagnerian scholars and enthusiasts for a day of learning devoted to *Parsifal* and the exploration of the story's genesis, archetypal symbols, and moments of transformation found in Wagner's last masterpiece.

10:00 am

Arrival

Wortham Center Stage Door, 510 Preston Street, Houston

10:15 am

Recreating Bayreuth: HGO Music Director Patrick Summers

Maestro Summers transports us to 1882 as he recreates the social significance of the premiere of *Parsifal* at the Bayreuth Festspielhaus, the opera house that Richard Wagner designed to be solely dedicated to performances of his works.

11:00 am

The Theatricality of Wagner's Final Work for Stage: Brad Dalton and Patrick Summers

This session explores the literary genesis of Wagner's *Parsifal*, and will include a readings from Stage Director Brad Dalton's play, *The Parsifal Project*, which draws text from two twelfth century works - *Perceval* by Chrétien de Troyes, and *Parzival* by Wolfram von Eschenbac.

12:00 pm

Catered Lunch

1:00 pm

The Archetypal Symbols of Parsifal: Dr. John Price, Dr. Sean Fitzpatrick & Patrick Summers

Mo. Summers leads Jungian psychotherapists Dr. Price and Dr. Fitzpatrick in discussion around the archetypal symbology of *Parsifal* and its deeper meaning to Wagner and audiences.

2:15 pm

The Music of Parsifal, from Suffering to Transformation: Dr. Jeffrey Swann

A regular lecturer at the Bayreuth Festival, concert pianist Jeffrey Swann takes us through the music of *Parsifal* and, departing from standard assumptions of Wagnerian leitmotifs, explores the aesthetic juxtaposition between moments of suffering and moments of transformation that are shared between characters.

3:45-4:00 pm

Program concludes

Departure from Wortham Center Stage Door, 510 Preston Street, Houston

For more information, please contact Claire Padien-Havens at cpadienhavens@hgo.org.