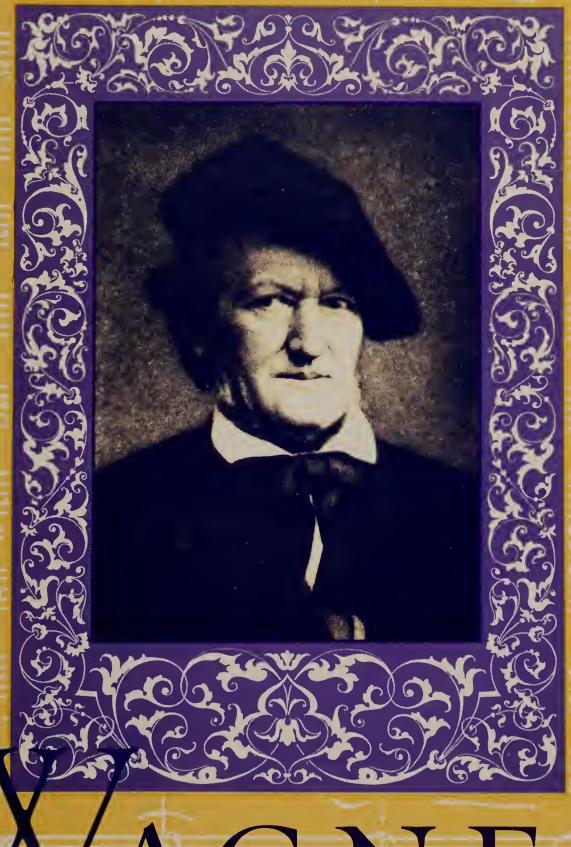
Presents



WAGNER

in His Century

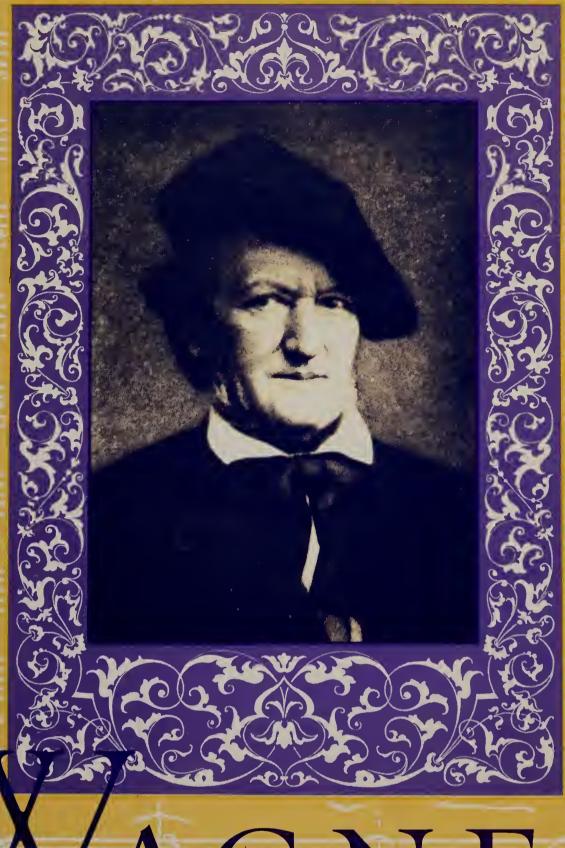
Presented in cooperation with the San Francisco Opera, the Goethe-Institut of San Francisco, and the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany







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Wagner in His Century

Moderated by Peter Pierson Herbst Theatre

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 8-11 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM

ART AND REVOLUTION IN THE WORK OF RICHARD WAGNER

Lecture by Gordon Craig

In 1851 Richard Wagner wrote "I long for the revolution with passion, and only the hope of experiencing and participating in it gives me the real courage to face life." European historian Gordon Craig will talk about the mixture of politics and art in the work of Richard Wagner from his days on the barricades in Dresden in 1849 until his dominance of the European music scene.

CONCERT

The San Francisco Opera Center

Wagner borrowed from and was influenced by a wide array of composers and musical styles. Singers from the San Francisco Opera Center explore this heritage in a program of music by Beethoven, Gluck, Spontini, Liszt, Weber, and Wagner himself. Performers include Micah Graber, Maria Fortuna, Catherine Keen, Patricia Racette, Mary Mills, Craig Estep, and Hong Shen Li.

RECEPTION

Bavarian pastries and champagne highlight this post-concert reception held in the baroque splendor of the War Memorial Green Room. Hosted by the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 10 AM-5 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 9:30 AM

THE MUSIC WAGNER LOVED

Lecture by Michael Steinberg

The roots of Wagner's style highlight this urbane and illuminating talk by musicologist Michael Steinberg, Artistic Adviser to the San Francisco Symphony. In this musically-illustrated lecture, Mr. Steinberg reviews both Wagner's inventions and his inheritance from such composers as Beethoven, Weber, and Bach.

HOW IS THE DRAMA IN MUSIC DRAMA MUSICAL?

Lecture by Anthony Newcomb

The sheer grandeur of a Wagnerian opera fires the imagination. The sets are mesmerizing, the spectacle overwhelming. But it is the music that remains the essential element of his work. UC Berkeley's Anthony Newcomb discusses how drama and music interact and reinforce each other to create a Wagnerian symbiosis.







WAGNER AND THE WRITTEN WORD

Lecture by Hans Vaget

The literature of Wagner's time had a profound effect on his life and on his music. In this lecture, Smith College's Hans Vaget considers the operas themselves as works of literature, situating them in the context of European literary history. Prof. Vaget explores the influence of various literary movements upon Wagner and the ways in which he incorporated them into his own work.

STAGING

'THE RING': THE FIRST CENTURY

Lecture by Barry Millington

In the 100 or so years that have elapsed since Wagner's "Ring" was first given at Bayreuth in 1876, the vast tetralogy has been staged in every conceivable theatrical mode. Wagner authority Barry Millington's illustrated lecture traces the history of that staging from the pictorial naturalism of the nineteenth century to the plurality of styles in evidence today.

CONCERT

The San Francisco Opera Center

Wagner's passionate "Wesendonck Lieder" highlight this performance by Catherine Keen, Mary Mills, Hong Shen Li, Patricia Racette, and other artists of the San Francisco Opera Center. Besides songs and opera exerpts by Wagner, the program will include works by Berlioz, Korngold, and Richard Strauss, illuminating Wagner's inescapable influence on his contemporaries and the following generation of composers.







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