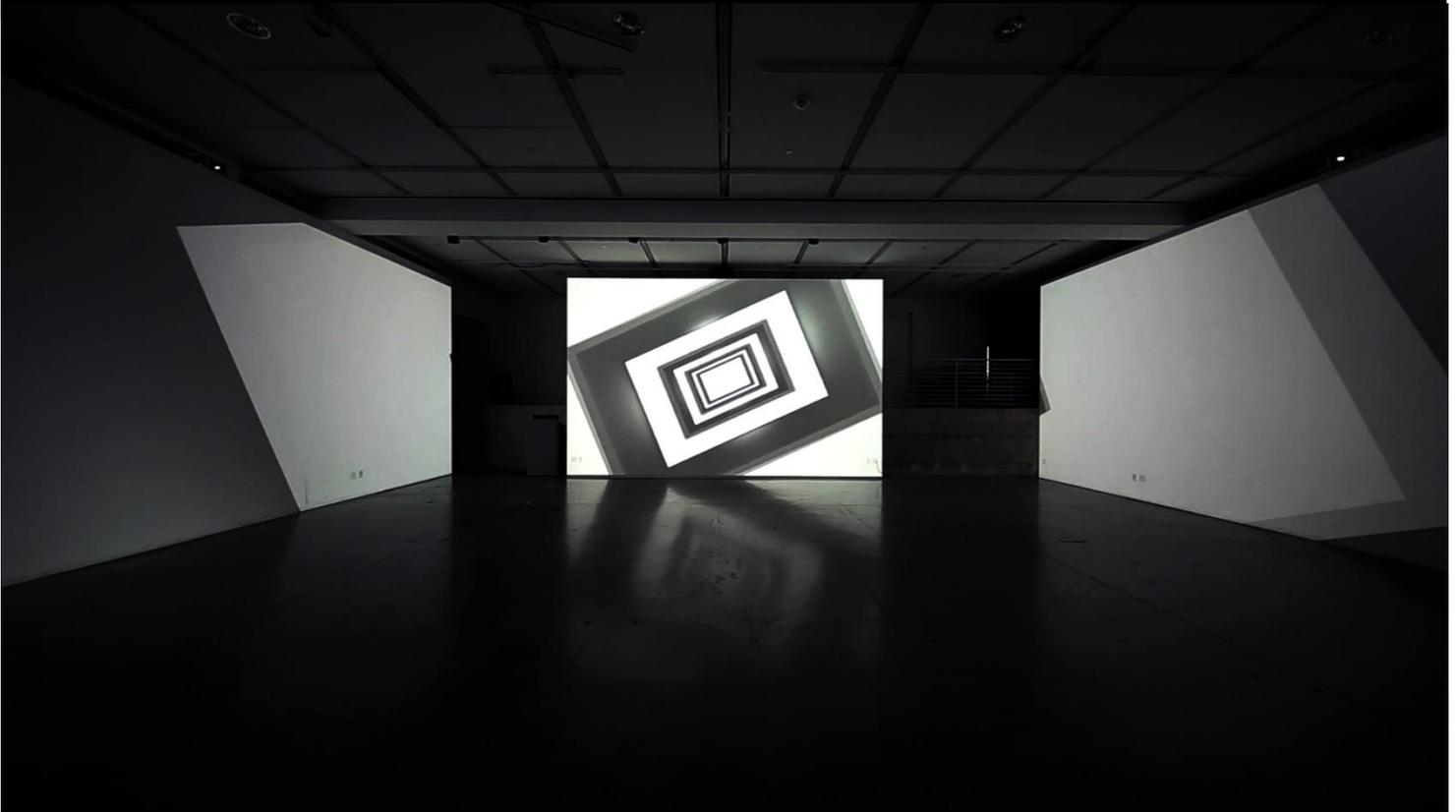


LA OPERA X IMMERSIVE VIDEO INSTALLATION

Performance + Q&A

April 19, 2018

UCLA Royce Hall Rehearsal Room



Opera: an extended dramatic composition, in which all parts are sung to instrumental accompaniment that usually includes arias, choruses, and recitatives, and that sometimes includes ballet.

ABOUT TODAY'S PERFORMANCE:

Today's performance features immersive video art installation. This installation is intended to shift the typical performance layout in opera. Beginning in the Renaissance, scenographers have attempted to create the illusion of 3D space on the shallow space of the stage. This started with drawing scenography onto flat canvases. Later, these canvases were broken into pieces, to create windows and spaces within the flat image of the stage frame.

The video art installation for this performance is reminiscent of scenography history in opera and theater. The video art uses perspective and dimensionality on three 2D screens to warp the space of the Royce Rehearsal room. These visuals will continue to explore the way in which a two-dimensional surface can give rise to three-dimensional space, while also placing opera in an immersive, contemporary setting.

PROGRAM NOTES

Libiamo ne' lieti calici

Sempre Libera

La donna è mobile

Habanera

E lucevan le stele

Quando m'en vo

Nessun dorma

O mio babbino caro

O soave Fanciulla

OPERA TERMS TO KNOW

ARIA: literally “air” in Italian. A song for solo voice usually with instrumental accompaniment

LIBRETTO: the “little book” that contains all the words and stage directions for an opera

PORTAMENTO: an Italian term for the vocal technique of sliding from one pitch to another continuously, as opposed to jumping between the two.

VERISMO: “truth”, a genre of opera from the late 19th century. Verismo operas depict everyday people in realistic trials and tribulations.

VIBRATO: the oscillating, or vibrating, quality that is present to some degree in all operatic voices. Vibrato can be used to support the voice, maintain pitch, or for stylistic effect.

SOPRANO: the highest female voice

TENOR: the highest male voice

CONTRALTO: the lowest female voice

BASS: the lowest male voice

COLORATURA: elaborate singing involving vocal runs, trills, and leaps. One of the most virtuosic parts of the opera.



Dancers performing in LA Opera's 2018 production of "Orpheus and Eurydice".



THE OLD AND THE NEW, THE 2D AND THE 3D, THE SONIC AND THE OPTICAL: WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE MIX OPERA AND VISUAL ART WORK?

Part of what makes art and performance so exciting is that categories do not always apply. That's right—unlike your pre-calc homework and grammar exercises--in art, there are often NO RULES. For example, what if your art work is both performative and visual? What if it utilizes painting and theater techniques? Or in our case, if it consists of opera and video artwork, what does that signify? What's so exciting about multidisciplinary art works is the potential to shift and change the mediums; to discover something that maybe a single discipline could not on its own.

As you watch today's performance, think of how opera and visual art define one another. What boundaries, categories, and conventions are being broken? What does one medium reveal about the other? How does the sound of the opera affect your perception of the video work? How does the video art affect the way you view the opera?

VOCAB LESSON: "DISCIPLINE"

DISCIPLINE: a branch of knowledge, subject area, or specialty typically studied in higher education

MULTIDISCIPLINARY: a work that features two or more disciplines. In this case, opera and visual art make a multidisciplinary performance, each drawing on their disciplinary knowledge to form a collaboration. Multidisciplinary work is special for its ability to reveal the unknown and shift an art form to a new place of discovery

INTERDISCIPLINARY: integrating knowledge and methods from different disciplines, synthesizing approaches to delve deeper into a subject matter.

INTRADISCIPLINARY: working within a single discipline

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY: viewing one discipline from the perspective of another.

Dig Deeper: Videos and Further Reading on Opera & Mixed Mediums

[Take a look inside the costume shop](#) of LA Opera's upcoming production of *Rigoletto*.

Check out these illustrations for an [animated interpretation](#) of the many ways medium and discipline can intersect, just like a sandwich.

Opera is in itself a multidisciplinary medium and therefore requires lots of rehearsal and technical attention; watch how LA Opera prepares for complex opera acts, like [set design transitions](#) and [dance sections](#).

DESIGN FOR SHARING

K-12 ARTS EDUCATION

PREPARE FOR YOUR VISIT TO UCLA

- Please bring the attached Directions for Bus Drivers with you in case your driver does not have proper directions.
- Design for Sharing volunteers will meet your bus and direct you to the theater; please be ready to leave the bus when directed to do so.
- Count your students and teachers before you arrive; the ushers will need to know how many people you have before they can seat you.
- Adequate adult supervision is important to the success of these events. Chaperones may need to supervise students in restrooms and be alert when students are entering or leaving the auditorium. Adults are expected to sit with students and help maintain appropriate standards of behavior.
- The hall is opened for seating a half hour before the performance is scheduled to begin. We make every effort to begin on time, but occasionally the opening is delayed five to ten minutes due to late arrivals from other schools or technical problems.
- Restrooms are located to your left as you enter the theater. Have your students use the restrooms before the performance begins.
- **Flash photography is not allowed in the theater**, as it can be dangerous for the performers - the flash may temporarily blind them causing an accident. Use of any flash camera, laser pointer or recording device whatsoever may be cause for ejection from the hall.
- Remind your students that chewing gum, loud talking and running are inappropriate in the theater, even before and after the actual performance.
- Please do not allow students to bring lunches or snacks to their seats. Lunches can be stored in the lobby during the performance.
- Please remain seated when the performance is over. Schools will be dismissed a few at a time.

