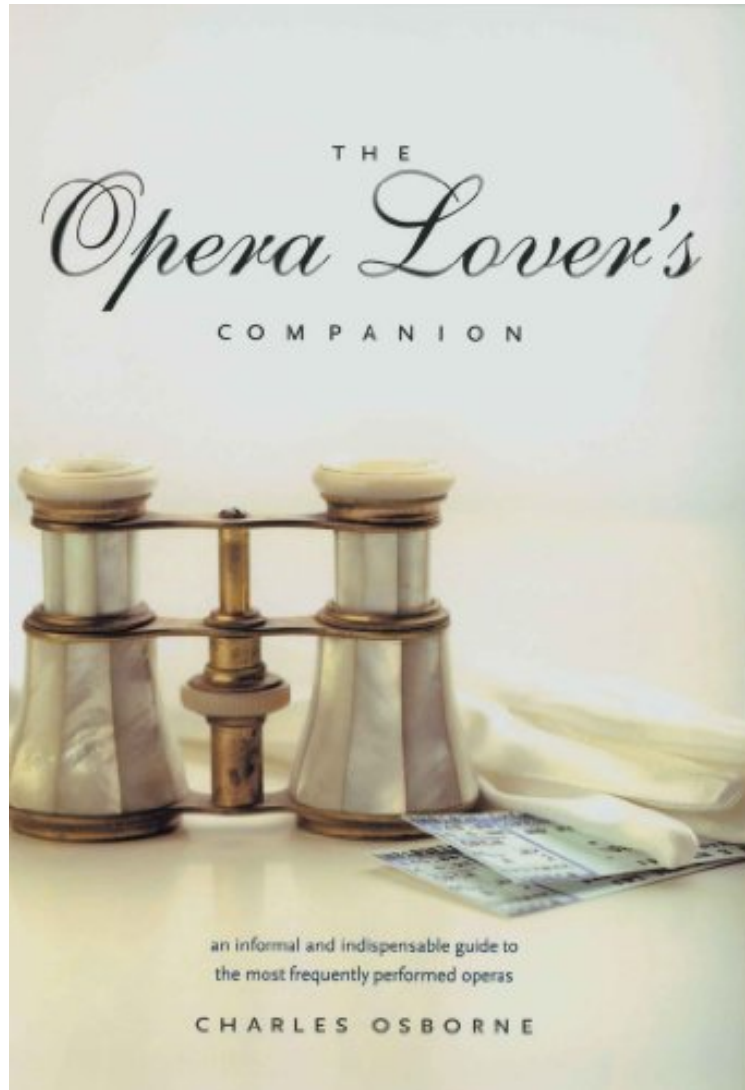


## The Opera Lover's Companion

*Charles Osborne*

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**Charles Osborne : The Opera Lover's Companion** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Opera Lover's Companion:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Don't leave home without it. By ahertzba1t's an informative reference and reminder for the plots and context of the composers and their sources. It has made my cafe hour before an opera more enjoyable, as well as the opera itself. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Bravo! By ACar\_CA Outstanding beginners reference book. Those well versed in opera won't need it, but it is a nice guide for the newbie. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Know before you go By C. Parson I have fallen in love with opera as I see it at the movie theaters through Fathom Events. This adds to my experience so much.

This engaging guide to the 175 most popular operas will enhance the experience of every opera lover. Written by a well-known authority, the book consists of entries that set each opera within the context of its composer's career, outline the plot, discuss the music, and give relevant background information on the libretto, the staging, and the most famous and influential interpreters of the principal roles. In addition, the entries recount details of the first performance and subsequent performance history and provide guidance on the relative quality of available recordings. Aimed at opera lovers and committed newcomers rather than specialists, *The Opera-Lover's Companion* does not set out to cover every opera but only those most frequently encountered in opera houses or on recordings. Although the book is dominated by the five great opera composers—Mozart, Verdi, Wagner, Puccini, and Strauss—fifty-eight other composers are also represented. It is always more pleasurable to go to the opera with a knowledgeable and experienced companion. If you can't, yours; I want to take this book.

"A loving and expert guide to the great operas in the repertoire, written from many years of experience. A must for all opera lovers young and old. I love it."—DAME JOAN SUTHERLAND