

Bellini Opera Theatre

Bellini Opera Theatre was founded by opera enthusiast, Rosolino Lo Duca, out of his deep love for the Sicilian customs and language. A native of Cinisi in the province of Palermo, he naturally has a passion for the music of Vincenzo Bellini. Dino Valle, co-founder of BELLINI OPERA, with more than 35 years of operatic experience, has founded the Italian Opera Co, The Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan, The Statue of Enrico Caruso Society, the Dearborn Opera, and the SWF Italian Opera Society. Mr. Valle feels privileged to be a part of the inauguration of BELLINI OPERA, and is looking forward to presenting many concerts and recitals to new operatic audiences.

Bellini Opera Theatre commissioned an Italian Sculptor Giuliano Zuccato to create the Bust of the Sicilian Swan Il Cigno Siciliano, Vincenzo Bellini. The dramatic Sculpture was donated to Michigan Opera Theatre. Bellini Opera Theatre president Rosolino Lo Duca along with Artistic Director Dino Valle and Member and sculptor Giuliano Zuccato researched many portraits of Bellini and choose an iconic Bellini that will be recognized at first glance of the Bellini sculpture.

Vincenzo Bellini was born in Catania in 1801 and died in 1835. He developed, along with Donizetti and Rossini, the 'Bel Canto' (beautiful singing) style of operatic composition that influenced many composers, including the great piano composers, Chopin, Schumann, and Liszt, who used the melodious, cantabile "Bel Canto" style in their compositions for piano. Bellini is truly the king of melody and Italian Bel Canto style.

Through a series of concerts, recitals, lectures and other out-reach programs in Michigan and Florida, **Bellini Opera** hopes to foster the enjoyment of operatic music for today's audiences. Thus presenting these concerts in a multicultural exchange between the United States and Italy, with artists sharing the joy of music, bel canto and opera.

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