

Wednesday 4 May 2022, 12.30pm

Talk by Erica Miner on Berlioz and Wagner

A Wagner Society in NSW zoom event via zoom

Report

Wagner openly admired Berlioz and made frequent references to him in his writings. Berlioz, however, was much more reticent about Wagner. They did attend each other's performances, exchanged letters, and met on more than one occasion.

Via Zoom, Erica talked about the fascinating relationship between these two eccentric masters. Comments following the talk can be seen on our Facebook site. Erica posted the following: 'Many thanks to Lis Bergmann and Wagner Society in New South Wales for hosting my 'Wagner and Berlioz' presentation yesterday. What a fun group!' Fellow member Robert Mitchell has described Erica's talk as: 'A deeply fascinating insight into two of the 19th Century's most significant composers. Erica Miner is both erudite and entertaining, enlivening her talk with both visual and musical examples.'

OVERVIEW: BERLIOZ AND WAGNER



BERLIOZ

- I. Unique places in music history
- II. Similarities/ Differences
- III. Influenced each other's career & music
- IV. Comparative Timeline
- V. Correspondences / meetings in person
- VI. Important role of Liszt
- VII. Commonalities/ Disagreements

Is Berlioz the French Wagner?



WAGNER



About Erica Miner

Former Metropolitan Opera Orchestra violinist Erica Miner is now an award-winning author, screenwriter, arts writer, and lecturer.

She studied violin at Boston University, where she received her Mus. B, cum laude; at New England Conservatory of Music; and at Tanglewood Music Center, where she performed with such musical luminaries as Leonard Bernstein. A member of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra for 21 years, Erica worked closely with distinguished maestro James Levine and other celebrated conductors.

Erica's lectures, seminars and workshops have received kudos on both coasts and on major cruise lines. She regularly presents opera lectures for Wagner Societies on both coasts, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at University of Washington and University of California San Diego, and the Creative Retirement Institute at Edmonds College (Seattle North).

As an author, Erica won the Fiction Prize in the Direct from the Author Book Awards for her debut novel 'Travels with my Lovers'. Her 'opera mystery' novel series includes 'Murder in the Pit' (assassination and intrigue at the Metropolitan Opera); 'Death by Opera' (Santa Fe Opera); and 'Staged for Murder' (San Francisco Opera). Erica is also an active contributor to major arts websites and magazines.

<https://www.ericaminer.com>