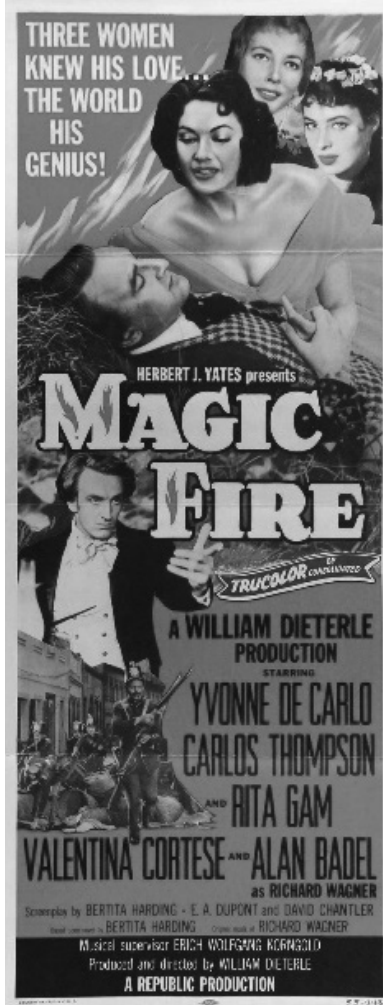


## SUNDAY 20 AUGUST AT GOETHE INSTITUT



### 12.00PM DVD *MAGIC FIRE – THE RICHARD WAGNER STORY*

Members enjoyed this lavish 1955 Hollywood movie. The soundtrack was outstanding - over an hour of Wagner's music, sensitively adapted by Erich Korngold. Some liberties were taken with the details and timelines of some of the events but, generally, the movie told the extraordinary story of Wagner's tumultuous life, and the important roles that three women played in it, in a very entertaining and intelligent way.

### 2.00PM TALK BY TAHU MATHESON: *WAGNER'S MUSICAL DEVELOPMENT*

OA Head of Music **Tahu Matheson** treated members to a deep and meaningful analysis of Wagner's musical progress; from youthful pastiche to mature works of startling inventiveness. Tahu played many musical excerpts demonstrating how particular themes, like the sword and gold



motives, were developed during the course of the Ring, giving the listener, (and the characters), knowledge of what had happened in the past or what was to happen in the future. Samples from *The Flying Dutchman* showed how the seeds of future material were to emerge in the later mature music dramas. Tahu demonstrated how the Tristan Chord goes through many iterations during the course of the opera and talked about Schopenhauer's profound influence on Wagner and his approach to music. Altogether, an excellent afternoon.