

Love and Death in Opera

Tutor: Dr Anastasia Belina

Synopsis

This one-day workshop will address the two universal themes that permeate the world of opera: love and death. The focus will be made on the four operas that appear in the repertoire of Leeds-based company Opera North in the next season: Bellini's *Norma*, Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*, and Wagner's *Das Rheingold*. You will learn about the composers of these works, their inspirations, intentions, and creative processes, explore the unique musical and dramatic worlds of the four operas, and hear recorded and live performances of selected extracts.

Biography: Dr Anastasia Belina

Dr Anastasia Belina is a music historian and writer, presenter, translator, and director with a specialism in nineteenth-century opera and Russian music. She presents talks on opera throughout Europe, and likes to direct lesser-known stage works. She is a member of LUCOS (Leeds University Centre for Opera Studies), and is associated with Leeds Youth Opera.