
Subject: Re: Today's Recommendation: Opera
Posted by [lon](#) on Sun, 13 Mar 2005 05:23:38 GMT

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T'weren't me, but a good post and start of a thread nonetheless. Previously I made some remarks about good taste. I hope no one thought I was talking about anyone here, but rather what passes for middle brow culture-- like Broadway musicals with classical pretensions. Similarly, I came to a bit of opera by not having any other commercial-free radio on Sat. afternoon but the local Public Saturday Afternoons at the Met (brought to you by Texaco) has been a long-standing habit now. So imagine my chagrin at actually seeing (and hearing) a few locally. Not the same. In the Theater of the Mind that is radio, I could imagine those big New York Lincoln Center Sets: the legacy of Gordon Craig in which well-heeled New Yorkers could indulge. Local road companies are pretty pale by comparison--pale and often barely competent it seems. All this is by way of saying I've seen and heard a bit of opera. After seasons of Afternoon At The Met, for style, tempi and general lack of hysterical sopranos (small 's') I've found that "Nabuco" is my favorite to both listen to and imagine in setting. But with that said, when they play "Il Barbiere de Sevilla" I still think of Bugs Bunny.
