

Treat yourself this summer. Attend the final dress rehearsals of Wagner's *Ring* while earning three credits or thirty clock hours by taking this innovative and engaging course at Seattle Pacific University.



Wagner's Ring: Love, Greed, and Destruction

When: August 1 to August 7, 2009

Where: Seattle Pacific University, Crawford Music Building, Room 211.

Purpose: To learn about epic opera, specifically Richard Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* and the cultural background against which this masterpiece was written.

Credits or Clock Hours: Three credits in Music, Education, or English (MUS 5039, EDCN 5648, ENG 5000, or CEU 2952). (Course numbers: 60640, 60641, 60642, 60643) You can also take the class for 30 clock hours.

Schedule for the Week

Saturday, August 1: 9:00 to 3:00, Room 211 in Crawford Music Building, SPU.

- Introduction to the musical, literary, and philosophical background of *The Ring*.
- In-depth study of *Rheingold* and *Walküre* in preparation to attend final dress rehearsals of these first two operas of the tetralogy.
- Introduction to Final Projects.
- Attend *Das Rheingold* at 7:00 at McCaw Hall.

Sunday, August 2: Attend *Die Walküre* at 6:00 at the McCaw Hall. No class meeting today.

Monday, August 3: 9:00 to 2:00, Room 211 in Crawford Music Building, SPU.

- Discussion of *Rheingold* and *Walküre* performances.
- Introduction to the Life and Times of Wagner.
- In-depth study of *Siegfried*, mythological archetypes, philosophical and social background of the opera.

Tuesday, August 4: 12:30 to 4:00 at McCaw Hall.

- Meet at 12:30 at McCaw Hall. Tour opera house, attend lecture on opera production and this production in particular. Dinner break.
- Attend *Siegfried* at 6:00 at McCaw Hall.

Wednesday, August 5: 9:00 to 2:00, Room 211 in Crawford Music Building, SPU.

- Discussion of *Siegfried* performance.
- In-depth study of *Götterdämmerung*.
- Finish Life and Times of Wagner.

Thursday, August 6: Attend *Götterdämmerung* at 6:00 at McCall Hall. No class meeting today.

Friday, August 7: 10:00 to 1:00, Room 211 in Crawford Music Building, SPU.

- Discussion of *Götterdämmerung* performance.
- Sharing some final thoughts.
- Presentation of Project Proposals.



Wotan from Seattle Opera's Production of *Das Rheingold*
Photo © Bill Mohn



Richard Wagner

Cost: \$450 (includes tuition, tour of the opera house, and attendance at the final dress rehearsals). Check with your school; there may be staff development funds available or money in your Continuing Education Account.

How: Register by mail or fax or phone. See information at www.spu.edu/spiral or by calling 206.281.2875 or 1.800.589.4038.

Teachers:

- Eric Hanson, DMA, Professor of Music and Music Director/Conductor of the Thalia Symphony.
- Nancy Babienko, PhD German Literature, High School AP English Teacher.
- Jim Schindler, MAT English, High School Humanities Teacher.
- Members of Seattle Opera's Education Department.

Questions: Call Jim Schindler at 206.777.5578 or 206.365.0459 or email him at jschindler@nsd.org or at jlswhs@yahoo.com.