

Personal Reflection – April 30, 2023

Opera As Metaphor

Watching, listening to and weeping over Verdi's *La Traviata* today, I saw for the first time how all operas, with their verbal poetry and musical beauty, are in the hands and voices of gifted men and women. These men and women, in their turn, have each spent *years* studying, practicing, memorizing musical and lyrical lines, rehearsing over and over again! God gives the musical and vocal gift; each musician and each singer works hard to use that gift to co-create the amazing beauty of an opera. A co-creation effort.

Take away the gift: no opera!

Take away the work: no opera!

Co-creation indeed! *Every parent knows the script. As does every architect, artist, baker, chef!*
Opera is a singularly beautiful, expensive and unique metaphor.

It is one of mine.

--Jane Vella