

Opera-tional: The Evolution of the Metropolitan Opera through Its Leadership

Olivia C. Mauterer
Cedarville University, omauterer@cedarville.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.cedarville.edu/rs_symposium

Mauterer, Olivia C., "Opera-tional: The Evolution of the Metropolitan Opera through Its Leadership" (2023).
Scholars Symposium. 15.

https://digitalcommons.cedarville.edu/rs_symposium/2023/podium_presentations/15

This Podium Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Cedarville, a service of the Centennial Library. It has been accepted for inclusion in Scholars Symposium by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Cedarville. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@cedarville.edu.

OPERA-tional:

The Evolution of the Metropolitan Opera
through Its Leadership

Presentation by Olivia Mauterer

The Founding of the Met

The Academy of Music

- ❖ Built in 1854, New York's first true opera house
- ❖ The reigning opera house in New York City
- ❖ Ten times the amount of shareholders than boxes (about 18-30)
- ❖ Boxes dominated by "old money" to display wealth and culture

A Mrs. Vanderbilt

- ❖ Growing wealth in industry
- ❖ Millionairess, likely the wife of William H. Vanderbilt turned away after having attempted to purchase a box
- ❖ Offer to add twenty-six less prominent boxes refused

The First Leaders

- ❖ Plans for new house begun
- ❖ Original participants included:
 - Roosevelts, Iselins, Goelets, Astors, Vanderbilts, and Morgans
 - George H. Warren



Photograph from the
Museum of the City of
New York

Henry Abbey

The First Impresario

Edmund Stanton

Seidl and the Reign of
German Opera

Maurice Grau

Maurice Grau Opera Co.

1883-1884

1884-1885

1885-1891

1891-1896

1896-1903

Leopold Damrosch

The Rise of German Opera

Abbey, Schoeffel, and Grau

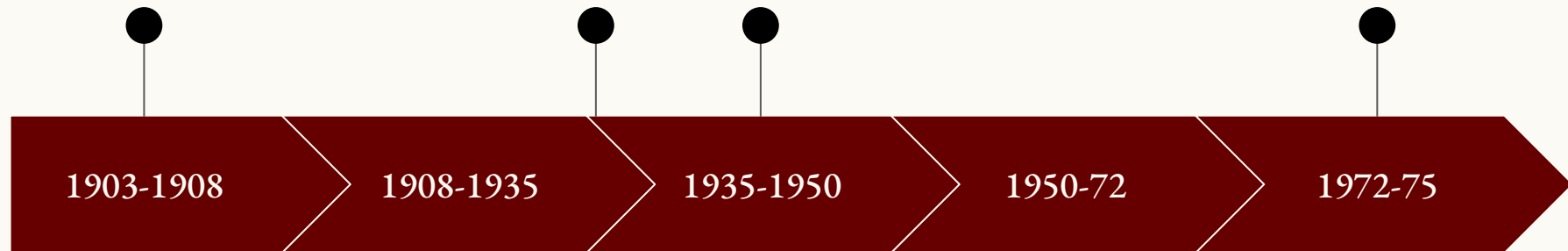
The First Administration

Heinrich Conried
Publicity and Debuts

Herbert Witherspoon
Singer-manager

Edward Johnson
Seasons of Change

Schuyler Chapin
Gentile's Successor



Giulio Gatti-Casazza
The First Opera Specialist

Rudolph Bing
Bold Manager of the
Met

Göran Gentele
Manager, Producer,
& Scheduled Successor

Rudolph Bing

A bold and quick-witted personality, he helped usher in the Metropolitan Opera of the future.

```
graph TD; A[Lincoln Center] --- B[Integration]; B --- C[Performers and Progress];
```

Lincoln Center

Integration

Performers and Progress

Into Our Modern Day

Regular Turnaround

- ❖ Anthony A. Bliss
- ❖ Bruce Crawford
- ❖ Hugh Southern

Joseph Volpe

- ❖ 1990-2006
- ❖ Expansion
- ❖ Premieres

Peter Gelb...

- ❖ 2006-
- ❖ Current General Manager
- ❖ Continuing Projects

Questions?

Thank you
for coming!

Photograph from Everett Collection Historical

