

# Opera San Luis Obispo

Presents

## *Falling in Love With the Operas of Richard Strauss and Hugo von Hofmannsthal*

### *Elektra*

*Elektra*, is a one-act opera by Richard Strauss, set to a libretto by von Hofmannsthal. The opera, based on ancient Greek mythology focuses tightly on Elektra, thoroughly developing her character by single-mindedly expressing her emotions and psychology.

### *Ariadne auf Naxos*

*Ariadne auf Naxos* brings together slapstick comedy and consummately beautiful music, the opera's theme is the competition between high and low art for the public's attention.

### *Arabella*

*Arabella* is an opera about sex, love, money and marriage. Its titular heroine is a poor little rich girl, looking for, and finding a wealthy man to whom Arabella's father intends to sell her in order to bail out the collapsing family fortunes.

### *Capriccio*

*Capriccio* is the final opera by Richard Strauss and librettist Clemens Krauss subtitled "A Conversation Piece for Music." The theme of the opera can be summarized as "Which is the greater art, poetry or music?" This question is dramatized in the story of Countess Madeleine who is torn between two suitors: Olivier, a poet, and Flamand, a composer.

The course meets in **The Exploration Lounge, 1645 Trilogy Pkwy** (located 3 miles west of Nipomo). Exit Hwy 101 at Willow Rd. Drive westward 3 miles to Via Conchita, turn left and drive to the Monarch Club on your right.

**Tuesdays, November 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2017. All sessions run from 1- 4 PM.**

Each session includes a 2.5-hr video segment from one of the operas and a 30-minute commentary and discussion. Each participant receives a 38-page course syllabus with bios, synopses and commentary.

**The donation is \$25 for the entire 4-session course or \$7 for a single session.**

**All proceeds go to support OperaSLO.**

**To register, send a check addressed to:**

**OperaSLO (write "Strauss" on the lower left line of the check)**

**PO Box 14760, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406**

**Checks or cash will be accepted at each session.**

**For specific questions and additional information please contact**

**John Frey at [JENFREY@aol.com](mailto:JENFREY@aol.com) or phone 549-0721.**