

"Opera Up Close" Quiz Answers



Question 1. When and where was the art form of opera invented?

Answer: around 400 years ago (1607), in Florence, Italy

Question 2. What function does an aria serve in an opera?

Answer: An aria comes at an emotional moment in an opera's story. The character expresses his/her feelings in a solo, often alone on the stage. It could be compared to a Shakespeare soliloquy, plus music that helps express the emotional journey of the character.

Question 3. Name 3 genres that exist in film that might also exist in opera. Submit your challenge to our Resident Artists in the "Ask a Singer" section of Utah Opera's School-From-Home materials, and they will answer you! They might even feature your genre in a video.

Question 4. Name some similarities and differences between opera and musical theatre. Answer: Both are performed on a stage with singers, costumes, props, lights, orchestra in the pit, and a live audience. Differences include microphones (for musical theatre), so a different vocal sound from opera singers who don't in general perform with them. Opera singers generally exhibit vocal technique that uses the classically-trained human voice's range, strength and flexibility.

Question 5. Identify similarities and differences between an art song and an aria. Answer: Both are written for a solo singer with text and music. Art song is written for just piano rather than orchestral accompaniment, and the text is based on a poem. Art songs are usually meant to be performed in a smaller room.

Write to our Resident Artists in the "Ask a Singer" box to continue discussion of any of these topics.