

OLLI November 16, 2023

CCM

www.ccm.uc.edu

Thursday, 11/16 through Sunday, 11/19, CCM Patricia Corbett Theater, tickets. Benjamin Britten, *The Rape of Lucretia*

https://youtu.be/86Bb8_nsltU?si=lxlaCM7fh2eoCXZB

Sunday, 11/19, 4:00, Corbett Auditorium, tickets. Duke Ellington's Nutcracker. Big Band and musical theater student dancers

https://youtu.be/zEJsgAHugt4?si=3_WTtL9Sy5-JgsN3

Tuesday, 11/21, 7:30, Werner Hall, tickets. Ariel Quartet; Alessio Bax, piano

- Leoš Janáček, String Quartet No. 2, "Intimate Letters"
<https://youtu.be/wkGQivw-2eY?si=Mu7EW2JY065TAh2X>
- Louis Andriessen, *Garden of Eros*
- Dvořák, Piano Quintet, Op. 81
<https://youtu.be/uL0fW8OYAiU?si=Cter22mHXPb3aS0Q>

Sunday, 12/2 and Sunday 12/3, 2:00 and 5:00, Corbett Auditorium, tickets. Feast of Carols

METROPOLITAN OPERA

www.metopera.org

Saturday, 11/18, 1:00, HD Cinemas, tickets. X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X, Anthony Davis

https://youtu.be/YJdoLF9zSZI?si=VLi_TwmK0uo8_WFZ

CINCINNATI MUSEUM CENTER

[Music in the Museum - Champion More Curiosity \(supportcmc.org\)](http://supportcmc.org)

Wednesday, 11/29, 7:30, tickets. Isabelle Demers, organ; Rick van Matre, saxophone

<https://youtu.be/cjNhMSDxEAY?si=pRSMfRSVG9G2AFZb>

CSO

<https://www.cincinnati-symphony.org/>

Friday, 11/17, 7:30 and Sunday, 11/19, 2:00, tickets. *Hamlet*, Ambroise Thomas. Langrée, conductor; vocal soloists; May Festival Chorus; Opéra Comique

- Jodie DeVos, aria from *The Magic Flute*
<https://youtu.be/A4BR060iJWc?si=TgZ5Di2gL9VCSggm>

MATINEE MUSICALE

www.matineemusicalecincinnati.org

Sunday, 11/19, 3:00, Westwood First Presbyterian Church (3011 Harison Avenue, 45211), tickets. Jasmine Choi, flute

- Fauré, *Morceau de Concours*
<https://youtu.be/RPR4is1Fbwl?si=UBwPZBWXZwf608U>
- Beethoven, Serenade for Flute and Piano, OP. 41
https://youtu.be/xy_Cvt2f7ZA?si=3UJuMi0y94Z6DdRF
- Isang Yun, *Garak*
- Prokofiev, Sonata in D Major, Op. 94
https://youtu.be/8IVBDkMg7jQ?si=w2Vo_TtiKL4Br4Sd
- Paul Schoenfield, Four Souvenirs
<https://youtu.be/6U7NT8n31t8?si=T0rNkjTDQhBW5RVc>

SYNOPSIS MALCOLM X

ACT I

1931, Lansing, Michigan. At the home of Reverend Earl Little and his wife, Louise, a meeting is taking place of the local chapter of Marcus Garvey's Universal Improvement Association, and Rev. Little is late. Louise has been tense all day, and members of the meeting are concerned about active white supremacist groups terrorizing local people. Louise remembers past attacks that haunt her. A policeman arrives to say that Rev. Little was killed in a streetcar accident. The neighbors ponder what may have really happened, and Louise becomes distraught, sings to herself, and soon becomes unreachable. A social worker comes to the home sometime later and declares the Little children to be wards of the state. Malcolm

tries to reach his mother, who does not react to him. She is hospitalized. His older half-sister appears to take him to her home in Boston.

About 1940, Boston. Still very much a country boy, Malcolm is introduced to Ella's middle-class black Boston and, through his discovery of the music there, finds himself in the local after-hours life, with his guide, a character named Street. But as a young adult, he gets involved with some people who rob a wealthy home, and he is arrested.

In an interrogation room, Malcolm reveals the anger over the troubles that have long plagued people like him.

ACT II

1946–48. Malcolm broods in jail when his brother Reginald comes to visit. Reginald tells him about Elijah Muhammad, leader of the Nation of Islam, whose teachings he thinks will help his brother. Malcolm begins to study the Nation's teachings and read many books. He becomes a serious and more hopeful man. Malcolm X is born.

The jail recedes as Malcolm hears and then sees Elijah. It is as if the word removed the bars. They come face to face. Elijah embraces Malcolm like a son. He tells him he has much to learn to spread Allah's word and sends him out to start temples. He is an electrifying speaker.

1954–63. Malcolm begins his ministry, helping to found temples in Boston, Philadelphia, Springfield, Hartford, Atlanta, and New York. This scene spans several years in telescopic fashion. The period includes some of the heights of the civil rights era and closes with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Malcolm is seen speaking on various Harlem street corners as time passes. He always takes the crowd.

Malcolm warms to his task when speaking before more and more exuberant crowds and decries some of the peaceful protests in the South as Malcolm defines his own political position. He leads an anthem declaring "We are a nation." At the end, he is asked about Kennedy's death and makes a remark lacking in sensitivity to the nation's mourning. Elijah is enraged.

Malcolm and Betty briefly discuss his upcoming meeting with Elijah. They express the hope that their children will be free to dream without fear.

ACT III

Malcolm is called to see Elijah, who is both disturbed that this spokesman for the Nation may have put the organization in jeopardy and that he may have become too powerful. Malcolm is disparaged by other Muslims as he comes to the meeting. The Nation is splintering into vying factions. Elijah silences Malcolm for three months, and Malcolm consents to the will of his leader. He visits with his family, disheartened by the turmoil dividing his community and reporters hounding his every step. Betty hands him a ticket and tells him to go to Mecca, to spend time alone, and find his way. He decides to simply trust in Allah and ask for His help.

Malcolm is in Mecca, dressed in the simple cloths of a hajji and awaiting word as to whether he will be permitted in as a convert and not a man born in Islam. The call to morning prayer sounds, and people there begin to go through the traditional motions of prayer, which

are new to him. He watches, imitates the others, and tries to learn the orthodox ritual. He has a larger vision of people across the world united together in faith, rather than by a single ideology. 1964–65. Just before he returns to Harlem, a riot breaks out there. He returns, now a changed man but outwardly the same. He is greeted by reporters who question him about the rioting.

Later, he delivers a speech before his own newly formed group, the Organization of Afro-American Unity. He tells his supporters what he has learned in Africa—that they are a part of a larger movement against colonialism and racism. He is warned of death threats. He is not concerned with the fear so evident around him.

He arrives to give a speech at the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem. After greeting his audience, he is gunned down.

SYNOPSIS *Hamlet*

ACT I

Elsinore Castle, Denmark. Two months after the death of King Hamlet, fanfares announce the marriage of his brother and successor Claudius to the widowed queen, Gertrude. Hamlet, Prince of Denmark and son of the former king, remains apart from the celebration. He is consumed by remorse and self-doubt and vehemently disapproves of his mother's new marriage so soon after his father's death. His thoughts are interrupted by the arrival of Ophélie, the daughter of the Lord Chamberlain, Polonius. She is in love with Hamlet and upset by rumors that he intends to leave the court. He assures her that he still loves her (Duet: "Doute de la lumière"). Laertes, Ophélie's brother, arrives. He is being sent on a mission to Norway and entrusts his sister to Hamlet's care. The prince refuses to join the others for the wedding banquet. His friend Horatio appears to tell Hamlet that his father's ghost has been seen.

At night, alone on the ramparts of the castle, Hamlet meets the ghost. He tells his son that he was poisoned by Claudius and demands vengeance for his murder. Hamlet swears to obey.

ACT II

Ophélie is distressed by Hamlet's indifference ("Sa main depuis hier"). She would like to leave the court, but Gertrude thinks she can help cure the prince's melancholy. Claudius, who also has noticed Hamlet's disturbing behavior, arrives. Gertrude wonders if her son suspects the real cause of the former king's death but Claudius assures her that he is merely losing his mind. The prince enters, rebuffs Claudius for addressing him as his son, and announces that he has arranged for a play to be performed that evening. When the players arrive Hamlet instructs them to perform "The Murder of Gonzago." He hopes that the story of a murder by poisoning will prompt a confession from the king and queen. In order not to arouse suspicion, he plays the fool and invites the actors to drink ("Ô vin, dissipe la tristesse").

The court assembles to watch the play. It has the desired effect: Claudius erupts in anger as the murderer of the story gains the crown. Hamlet hides his true feelings by feigning madness, snatching the crown from the king's head to the horror of everyone present.

ACT III

Hamlet reflects on life and death: he could have killed the king but did not ("Être ou ne pas être"). He hides as the king enters. Claudius is racked with remorse and calls on his dead brother to intercede for him with God ("Je t'implore, ô mon frère"). Polonius appears, calming the king, and the two leave. Hamlet is shocked to discover that Polonius was an accomplice in the murder. When Ophélie enters with Gertrude, he roughly rejects the girl's advances and urges her to enter a convent, declaring that he no longer loves her and will not marry her. Gertrude wonders what really prompted Hamlet's change of heart. Ophélie leaves in tears, and Hamlet confronts his mother with her crime. She begs for mercy (Duet: "Pardonne, hélas! ta voix m'accable"). At that moment the ghost reappears and reminds Hamlet that it is not up to him to judge his mother. Gertrude, who cannot see the apparition, believes that her fears Hamlet has gone mad are confirmed.

ACT IV

Ophélie has lost her senses. She imagines herself to be married to Hamlet and recalls the tale of a water nymph who lures away wandering men ("Pâle et blonde dort sous l'eau profonde"). She kills herself.

ACT V

In a cemetery, two gravediggers discuss the inevitability of death. Hamlet arrives. Unaware of Ophélie's death, he reproaches himself for the way he treated her and the madness his behavior has provoked ("Comme une pâle fleur"). Laertes appears, demanding vengeance, and the two men are about to duel when the funeral cortège with Ophélie's body approaches. Hamlet, distraught to discover she is dead, kneels by her bier. He then rushes at Claudius with his sword and kills him, before being stabbed by Laertes.

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