



## Richard Wagner Society of Florida

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Newsletter for September 2008

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**Meeting:** Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** The home of Dr. Richard and Marita Rotella  
515 161<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Redington Beach, FL. 33708

*Please make your reservation by Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> (727) 391-2658. Invite a friend.  
Bring your favorite Appetizer. Refreshments will be provided.*

**Program:** *“Lohengrin ”*  
*By Richard Wagner*

*The power and radiance of the Lohengrin score express Wagner’s deeply held belief that love is essentially mystical. The lovely Elsa of Brabant is accused of murdering her own brother, who in reality was made to disappear by an evil sorceress. But God sends a mysterious knight, Lohengrin to defend her honor. In a duel, he defeats Friedrich of Telramund, Elsa’s accuser, and claims Elsa as his bride. He will stay with her and help her rule the land on condition that she never ask him his name, or where he came from. Goaded by the wicked Ortrud, Elsa is overwhelmed with curiosity, and finally asks Lohengrin the forbidden questions. The vow is broken and Lohengrin must leave forever, however not before restoring to life Elsa’s brother Gottfried, allowing the Country to be ruled justly and peacefully under their leadership.*

Welcome back

I hope your three month hiatus was great fun, and that you are now ready to begin an exciting new season with the Richard Wagner Society. If you would like to share some memorable vacation experience with the rest of us, then please describe it with photos, and we will include this on our web-site.

In July, Richard and I visited Santa Fe, New Mexico. We saw three wonderfully performed operas: Billy Budd, The Marriage of Figaro, and Falstaff. In a beautiful open air opera house high up on a hill, surrounded by mountains it was a breathtaking experience. The merging of Native American, Spanish, Mexican and Anglo cultures makes for a fascinating history. Santa Fe is rich in museums, art galleries with artists in residence.



Charming adobe buildings, old churches and plazas. The intense blue sky, cotton ball clouds and majestic mountains bring out a special spirituality that has drawn many renowned artists such as Georgia O'Keefe to settle there. We greatly recommend that you experience the magic of this awesome place.

**Program's through December 31, 2009**

*Please mark your calendar*

**September 28, Lohengrin**, a brief introduction followed by opera DVD.

**October 26, The Flying Dutchman** (Der Fliegende Holländer) DVD.

**November 30, Rienzi, Overture**, followed by lecture and open discussion.

**December 28, Holiday Party**, details will be given in October Newsletter.

Program for 2009 will be announced at a later date.

**Membership Application and Renewal Form**

At our board meeting on September 13, it was unanimously voted to revise and update our membership. Our fiscal year begins on January 01 and ends on December 31.

Please fill out your form and return it with your check or money-order. Should you decide to pay by cash, you must still complete the form. It must also be signed by the person the cash is given to and a copy is to be returned to you.

This system helps simplify our bookkeeping and membership roster.

We certainly appreciate your membership. And always welcome your participation and ideas.

Wishing you all the best!

Marita

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Marita Wilhelmine Rotella, President.



