

Between East and West: Zagreb on the Operatic Crossroads in 1860s

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Zagreb, Croatia, 19th century



Zagreb city theatre (1834)



Milestones in 1860s

- POLITICAL: 1860 – ABOLITION OF NEO-ABSOLUTISM → REGIONAL PARLIAMENTS DECISIONS; 1867 – AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN COMPROMISE; 1868 – CROATO-HUNGARIAN COMPROMISE
- NATIONAL: CROATIAN LANGUAGE OFFICIAL AGAIN; 1861 – GERMAN PLAYS BANNED FROM THE STAGE
- INSTITUTIONAL: 1861 – FOUNDATION OF THE NATIONAL THEATRE WITH GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES
- MUSICAL: 1861 – *MUSIKVEREIN* SCHOOL WITH GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES; THEATRE ORCHESTRA WITH PROFESSIONALS AND AMATEURS

Italian opera companies in Zagreb in 1860s

- 1860 – Ulisse Brambila from Milan
- 1861 – Rafaele Burlini
- 1862 – Rafaele Burlini
- 1863 – none
- 1864 – none; rejected: widow Brambilla, Andreazzi (from Udine), Giuseppe Bernasconi (from Milan) and Roggi
- 1865 – Giovanni Battista Andreazzi (from Udine)
- 1866 – Andreazzi; rejected: Dottore Gardani (from Rijeka/Fiume)
- 1867 – none; rejected: Francesco Tirini (from Padua), Cambiaggio (from Milan), Johann Radler (from Vöslau)
- 1869 – Alessandro Betti (from Milan), taken over by Andreazzi, who's executive director became Faber; rejected: Vernici from Bucarest

Repertoire of Italian opera companies

- Gioacchino Rossini (*Barbiere di Siviglia*),
- Vincenzo Bellini (*Norma, Sonnambula, Montecchi e Capuletti*),
- Gaetano Donizetti (*Lucia di Lammermoor, Elisir d'amore, Lucrezia Borgia, Maria Rohan, Poliuto*),
- Giuseppe Verdi (*Un ballo in maschera, Ernani, Trovatore, Rigoletto, Traviata, even Luisa Miller*),
- Errico Petrella (*Jone, ossia L'ultimo giorno di Pompei*),
- Carlo Pedrotti (*Tutti in maschera*),
- Giuseppe Apolloni (*Ebreo*),
- Nicolò de Stermich/Nikola Strmić (*La madre slava*)



István Részler's company (Budapest): operas

- Gaetano Donizetti (*Lucia di Lammermoor, Linda di Chamonix*),
- Giuseppe Verdi (*Rigoletto, Ernani, I due foscari, Trovatore*),
- Ferenc Erkel (*Hunady László*),
- György Császár's *A kunok* (Cumanians).