



HUMANITIES WEST 2017–2018 SEASON



HUMANITIES WEST

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*A Unique Lecture &
Performance Series*

Norman Sicily: Art & Power in Palermo

NOVEMBER 3–4, 2017

Marines' Memorial Theatre
609 Sutter Street, San Francisco
Tickets: 415.392.4400
or Cityboxoffice.com

Muslim musicians at the court of the Norman King Roger II of Sicily



The Duomo and town of Cefalù, built at the behest of Norman King Roger II

For more information, visit humanitieswest.org



Norman Sicily: Art & Power in Palermo



HUMANITIES WEST
Exploring History. Celebrating the Arts.



TEOFILO RUIZ PHILIP SKINNER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017

7:30–9:30 PM

- Sicily as a Site of Encounter / Teofilo Ruiz (*History, UCLA*)
- Performance / Lecture / Sicily at the Opera: Sicilian Life on the Operatic Stage / San Francisco Opera's Dramaturg Clifford (Kip) Cranna examines the ways in which operatic art has mirrored the island's colorful past. Video examples and live performances by Marie Plette (*soprano*), Philip Skinner (*bass-baritone*), and Bryndon Hassman (*piano*).



SHARON GERSTEL BEVERLY ALLEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017

10:00 AM–Noon & 1:30–4:00 PM

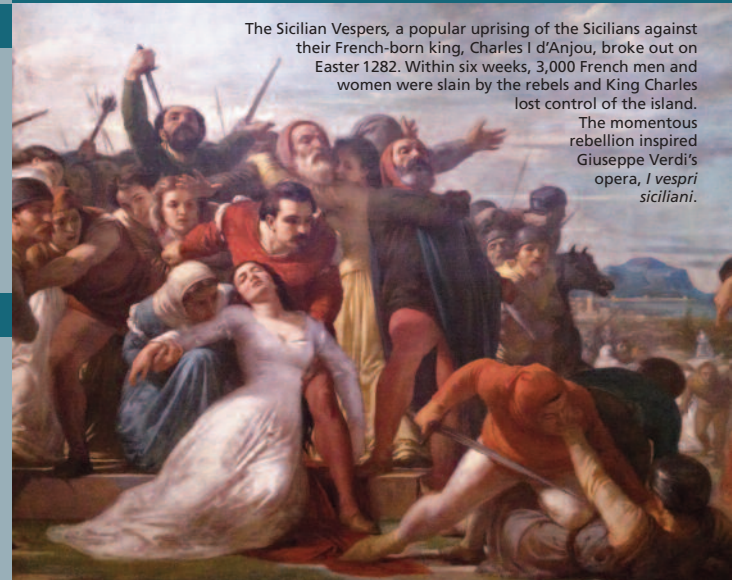
- Before the Normans / Fred Astren (*Jewish Studies, SFSU*)
- Manifesting Connections: The Art and Architecture of the Kingdom of Sicily / Sharon Gerstel (*Art and Archeology, UCLA*)
- The Courtly Love Poetry of Syracuse in Sicily / Beverly Allen (*Italian, Syracuse University*)
- A Troubadour Performance: Music from the Court of Frederick II / Tim Rayborn
- Panel Discussion: Q&A with the Presenters, moderated by George Hammond

DINE WITH PRESENTERS! PRESENTERS DINNER, NOV. 3 ■ FRIENDS LUNCHEON, NOV. 4

Dinner open to HW Donors of \$250+. Luncheon open to all Donors. Tix: cityboxoffice.com or 415.392.4400 by October 19.

RELATED EVENTS

- October 18 6:30 pm HW Book Discussion *Sicily: An Island at the Crossroads of History* by John Julius Norwich. Commonwealth Club, 110 Embarcadero, San Francisco. Tix: 415.597.6700 or commonwealthclub.org
- October 24 6:30 pm Sicily Fireside Chat with George Hammond. Orinda Library. Free.
- October 26 6:30 pm HW Salon: The Macabre in Music and Theatre featuring Tim Rayborn. Hotel Rex, 562 Sutter Street, San Francisco. Tix: 415.392.4400 or cityboxoffice.com.
- November 15 6:30 pm HW Book Discussion *The Peoples of Sicily: A Multicultural Legacy* by Jacqueline Alio and Louis Mendola. Commonwealth Club, 110 Embarcadero, San Francisco. Tix: 415.597.6700 or commonwealthclub.org
- Ongoing Events at Mechanics' Institute. 57 Post Street, San Francisco. Tix: milibrary.org



The Sicilian Vespers, a popular uprising of the Sicilians against their French-born king, Charles I d'Anjou, broke out on Easter 1282. Within six weeks, 3,000 French men and women were slain by the rebels and King Charles lost control of the island.

The momentous rebellion inspired Giuseppe Verdi's opera, *I vespri siciliani*.

Detail from *Sicilian Vespers (Vespri siciliani)* by Michele Rapisardi, 1865

Norman Sicily is presented with support from San Francisco Grants for the Arts, George and Judy Marcus Family Foundation, Bank of the West, Italian Cultural Institute, James Irvine Foundation, Stanford Humanities Center; Center for Middle East Studies and the Institute of European Studies and ORIAS at UC Berkeley; Hauben Charitable Fund; NWR Foundation; CBT Charitable Trust; the Weezie Mott Cooking School; Magic Theatre; Marines' Memorial Theatre; Mechanics' Institute; RushTix; and individual donors.

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