



Musical Realism in Puccini's La Bohème

By Luca Andrea Giordano

New Generation Publishing, United Kingdom, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 203 x 127 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.For a long time opera was dominated by larger-than-life characters: kings and queens, gods and goddesses, mythic figures with power over life and death. However, as opera became a more and more popular form of entertainment, the perspective changed. The challenge for composers and librettists was to give these legendary characters common feelings - to put little sorrow in great souls - so that ordinary people could easily identify with on stage dramas. Composers turned to stories about simpler, more realistic characters, creating a whole new set of challenges in the process. Nobody knew that better than Giacomo Puccini whose operas tell us that at some point in their lives, people everywhere, in all walks of life, endure the same trials: love and envy, loss and heartbreak. This is especially true in La Bohème, a drama of everyday events and common people, a story set among struggling artists in the Latin Quarter of Paris. Certain critics have analyzed his music and his stories and concluded that his operas are too easily enjoyable, and maybe not intellectual...



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