

## SPOTIFY SERIES: Great Singers in Palm Beach Opera History

Curated by James Barbato, Director of Artistic Administration

Over the past 59 seasons, Palm Beach Opera audiences have enjoyed performances by many of the world's greatest singers. In this Spotify Series, we celebrate our company's artistic heritage with four playlists that feature these exceptional artists in some of their best commercial recordings. Each week, we highlight 10 singers from one period in PBO history, beginning with the Paul Csonka era (1962-1983), continuing with the Anton Guadagno era (1984-2002) and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (2002-present), and ending with a celebration of some of our outstanding Gala artists throughout the decades.

### WEEK #2

#### PBO in the Guadagno Era (1984-2002)



Italian conductor Anton Guadagno became Palm Beach Opera's Artistic Director in 1984, continuing to elevate the standards of the company for nearly two decades until his death in 2002. One of the most renowned maestros of his day, Guadagno concurrently served as Resident Conductor of the Vienna State Opera for 30 years, and he had also been the Music Director of the Opera de Bellas Artes in Mexico City and the Philadelphia Opera, conducted at the Metropolitan Opera, and was Principal Conductor of the Cincinnati Opera. He was also a prolific recording artist on albums with many of the world's great singers, including the selection of soprano Ghena Dimitrova featured on this playlist.

#### [Playlist - PBO Guadagno Era](#)

**1. James Morris – Abendlich strahlt der Sonne Auge (Wagner's *Das Rheingold*)**

@PBO: 1986 *Faust* (*Méphistophélès*)

**2. Leona Mitchell – O mio babbino caro (Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi*)**

@PBO: 1987 *Aida* (*Aida*)

**3. Sherrill Milnes – Cortigiani vil razza dannata (Verdi's *Rigoletto*)**

@PBO: 1991 *Don Giovanni* (*Don Giovanni*), 1998 *Tosca* (*Scarpia*)

**4. Ghena Dimitrova – Tu, che di gel sei cinta (Puccini's *Turandot*)**

**\*conducted by Anton Guadagno**

@PBO: 1989 *Macbeth* (*Lady Macbeth*), 1997 *Gala* (*Soloist*)

**5. Nicola Martinucci – Di quella pira (Verdi's *Il trovatore*)**

@PBO: 1992 *Aida* (*Radames*)

**6. Ana María Martínez – De España vengo (Luna's *El niño judío*)**

@PBO: 1997 *L'elisir d'amore* (*Adina*), 1999 *Manon* (*Manon*), 2003 *The Merry Widow* (*Hanna Glawari*)

**7. Fabio Armiliato – Addio alla madre (Mascagni's *Cavalleria rusticana*)**

@PBO: 1993 *La bohème* (Rodolfo), 1994 *Carmen* (Don José), 2004 *Manon Lescaut* (des Grieux), 2006 *Tosca* (Cavaradossi)

**8. Aprile Millo – O patria mia (Verdi's *Aida*)**

@PBO: 2000 *Un ballo in maschera* (Amelia)

**9. Richard Leech – Salut! demeure chaste et pure (Gounod's *Faust*)**

@PBO: 1998 *La bohème* (Rodolfo), 2000 *Un ballo in maschera* (Gustavo), 2003 *The Merry Widow* (Danilo)

**10. Sondra Radvanovsky – Bolero (Verdi's *I vespri siciliani*)**

@PBO: 2001 *Luisa Miller* (Luisa), 2018 *Gala* (Soloist)