Calling London opera (and value) fans

11 Nov 2011 by Jancis Robinson

The new Notes wine bar just down the road from Covent Garden kicks off an evening series of wine, music and discussion about opera this Monday night with tear jerker La Traviata. For just £5 you get a talk from a Verdi expert, a tutored Italian wine tasting, something to nibble and a free CD. Seems madness to me. (Disclosure: our son is currently working for the owners of the two Notes establishments.) Here's Notes' description of the evening:

Notes Covent Garden is a new coffee, music and wine space at 36 Wellington Street in the heart of Covent Garden, following in the footsteps of its sister shop on St Martin's Lane by the Coliseum. By day, it aims to be one of London's finest coffee shops and by night one of the city's best wine bars.

Downstairs, we have created a unique music shop (see right) focusing on classical and opera CDs and world cinema movies. Inspired by research done by Heriot-Watt University which argued that listening to classical music can enhance the way wine tastes, Notes and Liberty Wines have developed a programme of Wine and Music Evenings which pair composers with wines from the country of their birth.

The first of these will take place on Monday 14 November at Notes Covent Garden, 36 Wellington St at 6.30 pm with the support of Universal Music and Liberty Wines.

The evening will begin with a short talk from a noted Verdi expert on his great opera *La Traviata* currently showing at the Royal Opera House. This will be followed by a wine tasting conducted by Marko Soda, Notes Head of Wine, featuring four wines from the same Northern Italian plains that inspired Verdi.

To book your place for this event or to enquire about any future events, please email notescoventgdn@gmail.com

The cost for the event is £5 and it includes the tutored wine tasting, the talk, a selection of food AND a copy of Joan Sutherland's Decca recording of La Traviata on CD.

The upstairs wine bar will be open throughout the evening for food and wine should you choose to stay longer – our Head Chef has devised a special Northern Italian menu for the evening.

WHEN: 14 November

WHERE: Notes Covent Garden, 36 Wellington St, WC2E 7BD

WHEN: 6.30 pm, Monday 14 November

HOW MUCH: £5