

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910823100503321
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Titolo	The real traviata : the song of Marie Duplessis // Rene Weis
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, England : , : Oxford University Press, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	0-19-101816-3 0-19-101815-5
Edizione	[First edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (417 p.)
Disciplina	944.063092
Soggetti	Operas Paris (France) Social life and customs 19th century France Court and courtiers History 19th century France France Paris
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; The Real Traviata: The song of Marie Duplessis; Copyright; Dedication; Preface; Contents; List of Illustrations; Chapter 1: Prologue; Chapter 2: A mother and daughter; Chapter 3: L'affaire Plantier; Chapter 4: Working girls in Paris; Chapter 5: A fair lady meets Pygmalion; Chapter 6: The baby of a traviata; Chapter 7: Stallions and flaneurs on the boulevard des Italiens; Chapter 8: An old count in Baden-Baden; Chapter 9: Partying in Paris and London with Antinous; Chapter 10: A summer idyll on a bend in the river; Chapter 11: Sin and luxury at 11: boulevard de la Madeleine Chapter 12: Alexandre Dumas fils, Lola Montez, and Olympe AguadoChapter 13: The pianist, the baroness, and the actress; Chapter 14: A registry wedding in London; Chapter 15: A summer sunset in the spas of Europe; Chapter 16: Agony and death of a maiden; Chapter 17: Two winter funerals in Montmartre; Chapter 18: Auction at 11: boulevard de la Madeleine; Chapter 19: La Dame aux Camelias, by Alexandre Dumas fils; Chapter 20: La Dame aux Camelias at the Vaudeville; Chapter 21: Verdi and the Barezzis; Chapter 22: La traviata 1853-4; Chapter 23: Epilogue; Main Characters

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Chapter 19 la dame aux camelias, by Alexandre Dumas fils : 1848Chapter 20 la dame aux camelias at the Vaudeville: February 1852; Chapter 21 Verdi and the Barezzis-the genesis of la traviata: 1823-1852; Chapter 22 la traviata 1853-4: the apotheosis of Marie Duplessis; Chapter 23 Epilogue: memory and myth; A bibliographical note; References; 1. Archives; 2. Newspapers; 3. Books and Articles; Picture credits; Index

Sommario/riassunto

The Real Traviata is the rags-to-riches story of a tragic young woman whose life inspired one of the most famous operas of all time, Verdi's masterpiece *La traviata*, as well as one of the most scandalous and successful French novels of the nineteenth century, *La Dame aux Camelias*, by Alexandre Dumas fils. The woman at the centre of the story, Marie Duplessis, escaped from her life as an abused teenage girl in provincial Normandy, rising in an amazingly short space of time to the apex of fashionable life in nineteenth century Paris, where she was considered the queen of the Parisian courtesans.
