About the Contributors

Julian Budden, president of the Centro Studi Giacomo Puccini (Lucca), is the author of Puccini: His Life and Works (Master Musicians Series, 2002), as well as many scholarly articles on the composer and the three-volume The Operas of Verdi (Clarendon, 1992).

Deborah Burton, co-editor of this volume, is the author of “The Real Scarpia: Historical Sources for Tosca” (Opera Quarterly, 1994); “Select Bibliography,” in The Puccini Companion (Norton, 1994); “Michele Puccini's Counterpoint Treatise” (Quaderni pucciniani, 1996); “The Creation of Tosca: Towards a clearer view” (Opera Quarterly, 1996); and her Ph.D. dissertation, “Puccini's Tosca: A Heuristic Approach to the Unifying Elements of the Opera” (University of Michigan, 1995). She is currently an assistant professor at Florida International University.

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**Herbert Handt**, artistic director of the Lucca Music Association since 1964, studied at the Juilliard School and Columbia University and with Hans Swarowsky in Vienna, subsequently performing with the NBC Symphony under Arturo Toscanini and the Metropolitan Opera. His research into the musical traditions of Lucca led to the present interest in the astounding musical heritage of the Puccini family.

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**Magda Olivero** was born in Saluzzo, Italy, in 1910. She studied piano, composition, and singing from an early age, making her official debut as Lauretta in *Gianni Schicchi* in Turin in 1933. The same year she played Anna in *Nabucco* at La Scala and in 1937 debuted at the Teatro dell’Opera di Roma as Elsa in *Lohengrin*. She sang principal roles in all the major theaters in Italy and was one of the greatest Toscas of the twentieth century.

**Simonetta Puccini** is the granddaughter of the composer Giacomo Puccini and his only living direct descendant. She is
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