“The Cricket on the Hearth in the Italian Opera House”

David Chandler

1. The Cricket Operas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>COMPOSER</th>
<th>WRITER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Il Grillo del Focolare</td>
<td>Giuseppe Galligani</td>
<td>Gallignani</td>
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<tr>
<td>c.1895</td>
<td>Britain</td>
<td>The Cricket on the Hearth (?)</td>
<td>(Not set)*</td>
<td>Frances C. Burnand</td>
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<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Das Heimchen am Herd</td>
<td>Karl Goldmark</td>
<td>A. M. Willner</td>
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<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>Britain</td>
<td>The Cricket on the Hearth</td>
<td>Alexander Mackenzie</td>
<td>Julian Sturgis</td>
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<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Il Grillo del Focolare</td>
<td>Riccardo Zandonai</td>
<td>Cesare Hanau</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Written for Edward Solomon to set.


(Turiddu is having an affair with Lola, the wife of Alfio. He has abandoned his girlfriend, Santuzza. She is bitter and jealous, and decides to tell Alfio about the affair—on Easter day. Alfio swears that he will have a terrible revenge.)

**Santuzza:**

Infame io son
Che vi parlai così!

**Alfio:**

Infami loro:
Ad essi non perdono;
Vendetta avrò
Pria che tramonti il di.
Io sangue voglio,
All’ira m’abbandono,
In odio tutto
L’amor mio finì!

I am vile
To have told you this!

It is they who are vile:
I will not forgive them;
I will have vengeance
Before the sun goes down.
I will have blood,
My rage shall know no bounds,
And all my love
Shall end in hate!