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# KICKSTARTING ITALIAN OPERA IN THE ANDES

The 1840s and the First Opera Companies

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**Abstract:** During the nineteenth century, Italian opera became truly transatlantic and its rapid expansion is one of the most exciting new areas of study in music and the performing arts. Beyond the Atlantic coasts, opera searched for new spaces to expand its reach. This Element discusses Italian opera in the Andean countries of Chile, Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia during the 1840s and focuses on opera as a product that both challenged and was challenged in the Andes by other forms of performing arts, behaviours, technologies, material realities and business models.

This Element also has a video abstract: www.cambridge.org/Musical Theatre\_Konig\_abstract

**Keywords:** Italian opera, Andean region, transatlantic, global history, impresario

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