

Madama Butterfly

by Giacomo Puccini

Libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa

"Dovunque al mondo" (Everywhere in the world)

In the Act 1 introduction of Pinkerton, he sings that he's not satisfied with life unless he takes "a pretty flower on every shore." The rhythms of the "Star Spangled Banner" underscore the expression of this "roving Yankee's" insensitive and misogynist worldview.

PINKERTON

Dovunque al mondo
lo Yankee vagabondo
si gode e traffica
sprezzando rischi.
Affonda l'àncora
alla ventura...

PINKERTON

Everywhere in the world
the roving Yankee
takes his pleasure and his profit,
indifferent to all risks.
He drops anchor
at random...