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La Gioconda

DRAMA IN FOUR ACTS BY ALMICARE PONCHIELLI

OPERA 2013

HDTV

Libretto by Arrigo Boito after *Angelo, Tyrant of Padua* by Victor Hugo
Musical direction: Daniel Oren
Stage director, sets and costumes: Pier Luigi Pizzi

FILMED AT Opéra national de Paris
IN May 2013
TV DIRECTOR Dominique Thiel
RUNNING TIME 1x170'



WAHOO



Fondation Orange

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DISTRIBUTION

La Gioconda

ARTISTIC INFORMATION

SYNOPSIS

In his preface to *Angelo, Tyrant of Padua*, one of his rare prose plays, Victor Hugo says that drama has to be both noble and real. In transposing the play to operatic form, Amilcare Ponchielli and Arrigo Boito remained faithful to Hugo. Their *Gioconda*, first performed at La Scala Milan in 1876, is one of the most flamboyant of classic operas. At that time, it was difficult for a composer to live in the shadow of Verdi, but Ponchielli was one of the rare artists to carve out a place and an identity for himself, not too far removed from the Master but different nonetheless. At his side, Boito, who had already demonstrated his talent as a composer with *Mefistofele*, proved to be even more skilled as a librettist, and he soon went on to work with Verdi. Lying somewhere between great French opera and Verdi-style drama, *La Gioconda* portrayed broken hearts and shattered destinies in 17th century Venice. Power and love, sacrifice and betrayal, poison and revenge: the opera brings together all the elements of melodrama and infuses them with a new lease of life, grandiose and operatic. Violeta Urmana, Luciana D'Intino, Marcelo Alvarez and Sergey Murzaev appear together under the baton of Daniel Oren and Pier Luigi Pizzi's direction in this rare and spectacular masterpiece.

Coproduction: Gran Teatre del Liceu, Barcelona, and Teatro real, Madrid.

PERFORMERS

Violeta Urmana *La Gioconda*
Luciana D'Intino *Laura Adorno*
Orlin Anastassov *Alvise Badoero*
María José Montiel *La Cieca*
Marcelo Alvarez *Enzo Grimaldo*
Sergey Murzaev *Barnaba*
Paris Opera Orchestra and Chorus
Maîtrise des Hauts-de-Seine / Paris Opera Children's Chorus

ARTISTIC STAFF

Musical Direction: Daniel Oren

Stage director, sets and costumes: Pier Luigi Pizzi

Lighting: Sergio Rossi

Choreography: Gheorghe Iancu

Chorus master: Patrick Marie Aubert

Costumes supplied by the Arena di Verona Foundation

PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION COMPANIES Opéra de Paris Production, Wahoo production, with the participation of France Télévisions and the support of the CNC and of La Fondation Orange

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER Frédéric Allain, Laurent Métivier

DISTRIBUTION

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VIDEO FORMAT HDCAM, Digibeta, stereo sound and dolby 5.1

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