

PRIMA CLASSIC PRESENTS



Vincenzo Bellini's IL PIRATA
Studio Recording of the Complete Opera

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Il Pirata

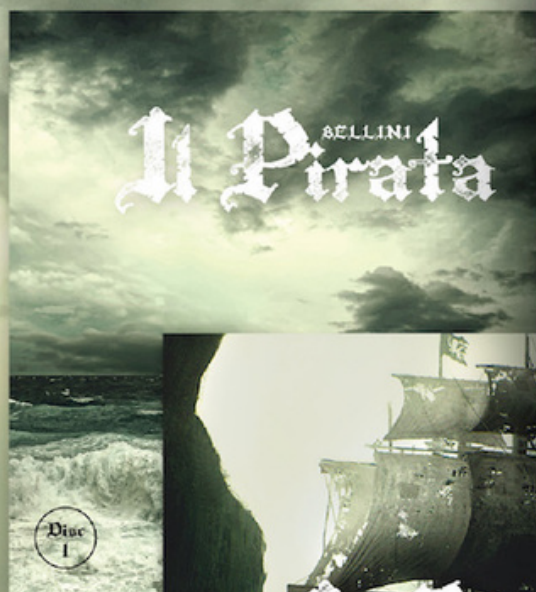
Vincenzo
Bellini

STUDIO RECORDING OF THE COMPLETE OPERA

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Orchestra e Coro del Teatro
Massimo Bellini di Catania
FABRIZIO MARIA CARMINATI



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Orchestra e Coro del Teatro Massimo Bellini di Catania



Fabrizio Maria Carminati

VINCENZO BELLINI (1801-1835)

Il Pirata

Melodramma in two acts

Libretto by Felice Romani

***"Rejoice as one of my parents and relatives; your Nephew has had the fortune of making such an event with his opera, that he cannot express it, neither it, nor all my friends, nor I could flatter myself with such an outcome.
...the curtain falls and the applause starts; and then the stage calling me out, I presented myself and received the general satisfaction of one cultured public, which, after me, called out also all the singers."***

Excerpt from Vincenzo Bellini's letter to his uncle Vincenzo Ferlito, on the public's reaction at the opening night of *Il Pirata*, at Teatro alla Scala, Milan, on October 27th, 1827

This relatively rarely performed opera stands out in the *bel canto* repertoire for its original musical resources applied by a young but undeniably genius Bellini, who was pushing the limits of the musical traditions of his time. Particularly original is the chorus of the Pirates with the echo effect: this genial page drew a clamorous success and was defined by a critic at La Scala *"...a masterpiece of musical science"*. A mature Rossini told Bellini in a brief meeting they had in August 1829: *"I have known in your operas that you begin where others have ended."*

This new studio recording of the opera in its uncut version includes all the repetitions, original *cadenzas* and variations written by the singers, as well as the rarely performed *finale*. At Prima Classic, it is our aim to present to the public this masterpiece of composition, beauty, and of incredible technical demands on the soloists, performed by some of the most prominent singers of today.

With Javier Camarena, Marina Rebeka, and Franco Vassallo performing the leading roles, this album was recorded at Bellini's homeland, Catania, with the Orchestra e Coro del Teatro Massimo Bellini, under the baton of Fabrizio Maria Carminati.

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Credits

Executive producers: Edgardo Vertanessian and Marina Rebeka

Producers: Anete Toča and Marina Rebeka

Recording engineer: Edgardo Vertanessian

Recording assistant: Nicolás Gleria

Editing, mixing and mastering: Edgardo Vertanessian

Recorded at the Teatro Sangiorgi, Catania, Italy, in August and September 2020

This is not a recording from a live performance.

Essay: Domenico Di Meo, courtesy of Teatro Massimo Bellini

Libretto translation: Jeremy Commons

Artwork design: Tatyana Vlasova and Andrew Vlasov

Editorial consultant: Carlos Céster

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for allowing us to use Mr. Commons' English translation of the libretto.*

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