



# An Introduction to... VERDI Aida

written by **Thomson Smillie**  
narrated by **David Timson**

Ancient Egypt and the war with Ethiopia is the setting for Verdi's grandest opera. It is the story of the love between Radames, the Egyptian general and Aida, an Ethiopian slave, and the jealousy of Amneris, daughter of the King of Egypt. It was written in 1871 to a commission from the Khedive of Egypt to inaugurate the new opera house in Cairo.

## OPERA EXPLAINED

This series introduces, in words and music, the plot and background of the major operas. Using the principal themes and arias, taken from the Naxos recording of the complete work, Thomson Smillie is informative yet entertaining, enabling the listener to get more from this remarkable art form.